

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BATTLE

England & Wales · Charity number 1141300

## Details

---

Other names	ST MARY'S BATTLE PCC
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2011-04-01
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

---

Address	St. Marys The Virgin Church Upper Lake Battle East Sussex TN33 0AN
Phone	01424775290
Email	<a href="mailto:admin@stmarysbattle.org.uk">admin@stmarysbattle.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.stmarysbattle.org.uk">www.stmarysbattle.org.uk</a>

## Activities

---

**Objects:** Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

**Activities:** Regular public worship open to all. Provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation. Promoting the whole mission of the Church through activities for all members of society. Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved. Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups and school assemblies. Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.

## Classification

---

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- East Sussex

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£169,866	£172,156	-	-
2024-12-31	£308,471	£171,578	-	-
2023-12-31	£190,594	£160,720	-	-
2022-12-31	£210,725	£147,207	-	-
2021-12-31	£145,283	£117,676	-	-
2020-12-31	£95,057	£98,385	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>The Very Reverend Lee Christopher James Duckett</b>	Chair	2019-09-26
ALISON JUDITH HASSELL		2011-03-15
Carolyn Collins		2022-04-27
JULIA ELIZABETH THORP Mrs		2011-03-15
Jacqueline Richards		2022-05-08
Jonathan Andrew Snow		2024-04-24
Paul Lewis		2020-09-30
Phillip Collins		2020-09-30
Sandra Walker		2024-04-24
Tracy Ann Dixon		2022-05-11
Tracy Dixon		2022-05-11
Virginia Selmon		2022-04-27

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BATTLE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1141300

---

# Accounts

---



# ***ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE***

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**AND**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**OF THE**

## **PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**For the year ended 31 December 2025**

**St Mary the Virgin, Upper Lake, Battle, TN33 0AN**

***Dean:*** The Very Reverend Lee Duckett, The Deanery, Caldbec Hill, Battle TN33 0JY

***Independent Examiner:*** Manningtons Chartered Accountants, 39 High Street, Battle, TN33 0EE

***Bankers:*** National Westminster Bank plc Hastings (A) Branch, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1GW

**Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Battle**

**Annual Report for 2025**

### **Administrative Information**

St Mary the Virgin is situated adjacent to the High Street, Battle. It is part of the Chichester Diocese within the Church of England.

The PCC Secretary during 2025 was Mr Roy Hyde.

The parish is a charity and is registered with the Charity Commission under the terms of the Charities Act 1993, as subsequently amended. The registration number is 1141300.

Following the 2025 Annual Parochial Church Meeting the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC):

<b>Dean</b>	The Very Reverend Lee Duckett	(Chair)
<b>1. Churchwarden</b>	Mr Paul Lewis (until April 2024) then vacancy.	
<b>2. Churchwarden</b>	Mr Philip Collins	
<b>Retired Priest with PTO</b>	The Reverend Canon Edward Bryant Reverend Paul Messenger Reverend Christopher Channer	
<b>Readers</b>	Mrs Alison Hassell, Mr Peter Armstrong	
<b>Deanery Synod Representatives (4)</b> (elected for 3 years )	Mrs J Thorp (re-elected until April 2026) Mr P Armstrong (elected until April 2026) Vacant Vacant	
<b>Elected Members</b> (elected in April)	Until 2025	Mrs Gia Selmon (retired April 2025) Mrs Carolyn Collins (retired April 2025) Vacant Vacant
	Until 2026	Mrs Tracy Dixon (re-elected April 2023) (Eligible for re-election if continues as treasurer) Mrs Jackie Richards (re-elected April 2023) (Eligible for re-election for a further 2 years) Vacant Vacant
	Until 2027	Jonny Snow (elected April 2024) Sandra Walker (elected April 2024) Vacant Vacant
	Until 2028	Paul Lewis (elected April 2025) Vivienne Watts (elected April 2025) Roy Hyde (Co-opted May 2025) Vacant

## **Structure, governance and management**

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the Dean; Readers, Mrs Alison Hassell, Mr Peter Armstrong; the Churchwardens and members of the Deanery Synod) and twelve members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The latter twelve members are elected on a rotary basis, four being elected each year to serve for a three-year term. Individuals may serve for a total of six years and then must stand down for two years before being eligible for re-election.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The primary objective of St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. In accordance with the PCC Powers Measure 1956, the PCC works with the Dean of Battle, as incumbent of the parish, to promote the whole mission of the Church—pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical—within the parish.

The PCC is responsible for the worshipping life and general mission of the parish, together with the stewardship, maintenance, and development of the buildings on the St Mary's site. The Church of the Ascension and the churchyard at Telham are owned and governed by a separate charity, Dean Crake's Gift, which has its own managing trustees. While the PCC collaborates with those trustees where appropriate, it holds no responsibility for their governance or property.

The PCC provides public benefit through regular public worship; Christian education for adults and children; pastoral care; and the availability of St Mary's for Christian marriage, funeral, and memorial services. The Church Hall supports the wider community by hosting uniformed organisations, Battle & Bexhill Foodbank, and a range of local groups. These facilities and activities are open and accessible to parishioners and the general public, in line with the legislative provisions of the Church of England and the requirements of charity law.

## **Achievements and performance**

As at 31st December 2025 there were 149 members of the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 43 were not resident in the parish.

## **Major Parish Church Status and Strategic Development**

The PCC continues to work with the Dean to develop a financially sustainable model for the parish in line with the Mission Action Plan. Current priorities include exploring opportunities for tourism and heritage engagement at St Mary's and planning the refurbishment of the Upper Hall to support both mission and community use.

At its meeting on 23 May 2024, the Church Buildings Council confirmed that St Mary the Virgin, Battle meets the criteria for designation as a Major Parish Church. This designation, agreed with Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund, recognises churches that are significant in scale and heritage and whose ministry and civic role are comparable to that of a cathedral, but without equivalent staffing or financial resources.

The financial and operational complexity associated with Major Parish Church status continues to present challenges for the PCC, particularly given the parish's limited financial and human resources. During 2025, the church roof sustained storm damage, and work is underway to replace missing tiles and ensure the building remains secure and watertight.

St Mary's continues to benefit from engagement with the Major Churches Network, which provides opportunities to share knowledge, expertise and best practice with similar churches nationally and regionally. The Dean is working with the Diocese of Chichester to establish a local regional group within the Network to support the Major Churches of the diocese more effectively.

## **Contribution to the Life of Local Schools.**

St Mary's continues to maintain strong and constructive relationships with local schools, contributing to their educational and spiritual life.

### **Battle Abbey School**

The historic partnership between St Mary's and Battle Abbey School continues to thrive. The annual Founders' Day Service, Christmas Carol Services and Speech Day all took place at St Mary's as usual. Since 2022, the School has also held its weekly Tuesday assembly and end-of-term Mark Reading in the church. A series of summer lunchtime concerts presented by Battle Abbey students was again well supported by parents and members of the public. Organ Scholarship

The St Mary's Battle Organ Scholarship continues to operate successfully. The programme is overseen by the Dean, the Director of Music at Battle Abbey School, and St Mary's Director of Music. The scholar receives regular tuition on the church organ and gains experience of church music, liturgy, and performance through participation in services and festivals. Each scholar also undertakes a study visit to Chichester Cathedral to meet the Cathedral Organist and experience cathedral worship.

The aim of the scholarship is to encourage talented young musicians to work towards organ scholarships at universities, conservatoires or music colleges, helping contribute to the future provision of organists in the Church of England. This aim has been realised in 2025, with the current student securing a place at Birmingham Conservatoire for 2026. Funding for future scholars has been generously provided by a parishioner, ensuring sustainability of the scheme.

### **Battle & Langton Church of England Primary School**

The Dean has continued to serve as a Foundation Governor at Battle & Langton Primary School, alongside another Foundation Governor appointed in 2024. During the year, the School received a 'Good' rating from Ofsted and met the requirements of its 2025 SIAMS inspection. The Dean extends thanks to Mrs Vikki Cook and Battle Baptist Church for their ecumenical partnership in leading collective worship and supporting the school.

The School held its Christmas Carol Service and annual Leavers' Service at St Mary's, both of which were well attended.

### **Other Schools and Educational Links**

Claremont Independent School held carol services for its pre-prep, prep and senior schools at St Mary's. Marlborough House and Vinehall School held their first carol service in the church and plan to return in 2026. Claverham Community College held its awards evening and its first carol service in nearly twenty years at St Mary's. School tours also took place during the year, and the Dean extends thanks to all who helped facilitate these visits.

### **Significant Services at St Mary's**

St Mary's continues to fulfil its role as a Civic Centre Church. The annual Remembrance Sunday Service was attended by civic representatives, including the Deputy Lieutenant, Simon Corello, who represented His Majesty the King. The Dean gave the address, and RAF Battle 88 SQN ATC formed a guard of honour and participated in the service. The event was well supported by the wider community, including local schools and uniformed organisations. Seasonal services—including Advent Carols, Carols by Candlelight, Carols in the Churchyard, and Christingle—were well attended. St Michael's Hospice held its annual Lights of Love Service at St Mary's, which was warmly received by all present.

## **Occasional Offices**

During 2025, St Mary's recorded the following occasional offices:

Baptisms: 9  
Confirmations: 18  
Weddings: 4  
Funerals: 16

### Archdeaconry Services

St Mary's hosted the Archdeacon's Visitation Service for the swearing-in of Churchwardens, as well as the DAC Roadshow for the eastern area of the Diocese.

## **Overview and Financial Review of the Year**

### **1. PCC Meetings and Strategic Work**

The PCC met eight times during the year. Members continued to progress work with Craigmyle Fundraising Consultants on the development of a long-term fundraising strategy and feasibility studies in preparation for an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, with the aim of securing the long-term financial sustainability of the church and PCC.

### **2. Pastoral, Liturgical and Volunteer Support**

The Dean and PCC express their sincere thanks to the Pastoral Care Team for their continued support of the elderly, sick and housebound. Thanks are also extended to the Sacristan and Assistant Sacristan, the church cleaning and flower-arranging teams, and those who prepare and serve refreshments. The PCC also recognises the contribution of the retired clergy and Readers coordinated by Mrs Julia Thorp in providing cover for services at St Mary's and at the Church of the Ascension, Telham.

### **3. Parish Share**

The PCC pledged £33,000 to the Diocese of Chichester for 2025. This amount was based on projected income and reserves, despite a budgeted deficit of £5,000 and planned use of £19,000 from reserves. The pledge was honoured in full.

### **4. Legacies**

No legacies were received during 2025.

### **5. Concerts and Events**

St Mary's welcomed a range of musical events during the year, including concerts by Battle Choral Society and the Whatlington Singers.

### **6. Outward Giving**

A total of £5,089 was donated from PCC funds to external charities. This included proceeds from the Christmas Tree Festival, Remembrance Services and Mothers' Union Services, among others.

### **7. Busy Bees Toddler Group**

The Busy Bees toddler group continues to flourish under the leadership of Mrs Angie Duckett, supported by a dedicated team of volunteers and former participants.

### **8. Battle Branch of Bexhill Foodbank**

The Foodbank continued to operate from the Church Hall and remains an important ecumenical outreach in line with the diocesan commitment to serving the common good. The PCC charges for use of the premises but provides a 99% rebate as part of its community support. The Foodbank increased its assistance to help clients mitigate rising fuel costs.

**9. Christmas Tree Festival**

The main Christmas Tree Festival was held on 30 November and 1 December, with an Artisan Fair on the preceding weekend. Both events were successful and well attended. Donations of £1,400 each were made to two charities, with additional funds allocated to the Flower Guild, Mothers' Union, Pastoral Care Fund and general church funds.

**10. Safeguarding**

Mrs Jan Collins continued to serve as Parish Safeguarding Officer in 2025. There were no safeguarding issues reported during the year. The PCC confirms that it has complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

**11. Volunteers**

The PCC records its appreciation for the many volunteers who support the ministry and mission of St Mary's. The increasing demands of modern life create challenges in sustaining volunteer numbers, and the PCC remains grateful for the commitment of all who give their time and service.

**12. Reserves Policy and Public Benefit**

In accordance with Charity Commission recommendations, the PCC maintains a reserves policy requiring unrestricted funds (excluding property) to equate to at least nine months' unrestricted expenditure, taking into account reliable income streams. This requirement was met as at 31 December 2025.

When planning activities, the Dean and PCC considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, especially in relation to the advancement of religion. Public benefit is achieved through:

- Provision of worship, prayer and the sacraments;
- Christian education and discipleship;
- Pastoral care to those living in the parish;
- Missionary and outreach activities.

**13. Fabric and Buildings**

To support the ongoing mission and worship of the parish, the PCC continues to prioritise maintenance of St Mary's Church, the Church of the Ascension at Telham, and the Deanery. Signed on behalf of the PCC,

Chairman .....

Date .....

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 7 to 16.

### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R T K WALSH, FCCA  
MANNINGTONS  
Chartered Accountants  
39 High Street  
Battle  
East Sussex  
TN33 0EE

Date:

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2025
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		95485	4493	-	99978
Activities for generating funds		6701	-	-	6701
Income from investments		8915	9346	-	18261
Income from Church Activities		44926	-	-	44926
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 156027</u>	<u>£ 13839</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 169866</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		3127	-	-	3127
Church Activities		150938	15571	-	166509
Governance Costs		2520	-	-	2520
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 156585</u>	<u>£ 15571</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 172156</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		( 558 )	( 1732 )	-	( 2290 )
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains /(Losses) on investment assets</i>		-	-	( 3972 )	( 3972 )
<i>Fund transfers</i>		6131	( 6131 )	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>5573</u>	<u>( 7863 )</u>	<u>( 3972 )</u>	<u>( 6261 )</u>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2025		<u>£ 801674</u>	<u>£ 215126</u>	<u>£ 105618</u>	<u>£ 1122418</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2025		<u>£ 807247</u>	<u>£ 207263</u>	<u>£ 101646</u>	<u>£ 1116156</u>

There are no recognised gains or losses for 2024 and 2025 other than those included in the statement of Financial Activities

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for 2024:**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2024
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		223537	12532	-	236069
Activities for generating funds		6804	-	-	6804
Income from investments		11651	8316	-	19967
Income from Church Activities		45631	-	-	45631
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 287623</u>	<u>£ 20848</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 308471</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		4184	-	-	4184
Church Activities		160739	4495	-	165234
Governance Costs		2160	-	-	2160
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 167083</u>	<u>£ 4495</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 171578</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		120540	16353	-	136893
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains /(Losses) on investment assets</i>		-	( 2490 )	2690	200
<i>Fund transfers</i>		( 181 )	181	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>120359</u>	<u>14044</u>	<u>2690</u>	<u>137093</u>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2024		<u>681315</u>	<u>£ 201082</u>	<u>£ 102928</u>	<u>£ 985325</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2024		<u>£ 801674</u>	<u>£ 215126</u>	<u>£ 105618</u>	<u>£ 1122418</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025	2024
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	598242	598242
Investment Assets	6	<u>101646</u>	<u>105618</u>
		699888	703860
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock		-	-
Debtors	7	3609	4059
Deposits at Central Board of Finance		356409	340206
Cash at Bank, Building Society and in Hand		<u>58650</u>	<u>76573</u>
		418668	420838
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>2400</u>	<u>2280</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		416268	418558
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due after one year		-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	9	<u>£ 1116156</u>	<u>£ 1122418</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Funds	10	807247	801674
Restricted Funds	10	207263	215126
Endowment Funds	10	<u>101646</u>	<u>105618</u>
		<u>£ 1116156</u>	<u>£ 1122418</u>

Approved by the the Parochial Church Council on

and signed on it's behalf by:

LEE DUCKETT  
Dean

PHILIP COLLINS  
Churchwarden

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

**Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**Funds**

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - funds earmarked for a particular future purpose.

Restricted funds -

- i) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest.
- ii) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained: only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the 'purpose' set out in the terms of the original endowment.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Voluntary income**

Collections are recognised when received. Planned giving receivable recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

**Other income**

Rental income from the letting of church premises and all other income is recognised when it is receivable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Income from investments**

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

**Gains and losses on investments**

Realised gains are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

**Resources used**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted gross.

**Grants**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

**Church Activities**

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

**Fixed Assets**

**Tangible Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Dean and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's Inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

The Church Hall is shown in the accounts at the 2007 insurance value, this is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees. No depreciation is provided on land and buildings as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values

Church equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

**Investments**

Investments are as stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

**Current assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Chancel trust and income grant**

presentation of Chancel Funds had been misunderstood and that a revision was required.

Income received from Chancel trusts is not investment income, as the PCC does not own the trust fund nor its investments.

Accumulated grant income not yet received from Chichester DBF amounted to £2,606 at 31st December 2025 (2024 £2,490). This is available for Chancel repairs upon request to the DBF.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
<b>2 INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid Donations	49048	-	49048	46738
Tax recoverable	18986	-	18986	16209
Collections at services	17375	-	17375	17313
Donations	5132	2265	7397	16846
Grants - Other	90	1721	1811	2205
Legacies and Donations in Memory	-	-	-	132137
Other Voluntary Income	4854	507	5361	4621
	<u>£ 95485</u>	<u>£ 4493</u>	<u>£ 99978</u>	<u>£ 236069</u>
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>				
Christmas Tree Festival	5778	-	5778	4202
General fund raising	923	-	923	2602
	<u>£ 6701</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 6701</u>	<u>£ 6804</u>
<b>c. Income from investments</b>				
Dividends and interest	<u>£ 8915</u>	<u>£ 9346</u>	<u>£ 18261</u>	<u>£ 19967</u>
<b>d. Income from Church Activities</b>				
Church and Church Hall lettings	22434	-	22434	19964
Benedicta Whistler Centre	3953	-	3953	3396
Fees from weddings etc	13852	-	13852	17774
Magazine	4087	-	4087	3571
Insurance claim	600	-	600	926
	<u>£ 44926</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 44926</u>	<u>£ 45631</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME RESOURCES</b>	<u>£ 156027</u>	<u>£ 13839</u>	<u>£ 169866</u>	<u>£ 308471</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
<b>3 RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>a. Costs of generating voluntary income</b>				
Stewardship costs	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>b. Fundraising costs</b>	£ 3127	£ -	£ 3127	£ 4184
<b>c. Church activities</b>				
Ministry costs:				
Parish contribution to Diocese	33000	-	33000	32000
Other clergy costs	16985	-	16985	14880
Church running expenses	30478	1431	31909	28688
Church maintenance	9718	10328	20046	9165
Upkeep of services	15409	990	16399	19283
Stationery and telephone	2176	-	2176	2365
Expenditure on magazine	2629	-	2629	2471
Church Halls running costs	15351	-	15351	19038
Benedicta Whistler Centre	3311	-	3311	6000
Flowers	-	1453	1453	575
Mission, Outreach and Charitable Giving	4876	-	4876	5576
Staff wages	13299	-	13299	12404
Bank charges	606	-	606	472
Sundry and subscriptions	2684	1369	4053	6760
Eco Church Garden	364	-	364	3225
Merchandise Purchases	52	-	52	2332
	£ 150938	£ 15571	£ 166509	£ 165234
<b>d. Governance costs</b>				
Independent examination fee	2520	-	2520	2160
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	-
	£ 2520	£ -	£ 2520	£ 2160
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	£ 156585	£ 15571	£ 172156	£ 171578

**4 REGULAR CONTRACTORS' COSTS**

During the year payments were made to a church caretaker, parish clerk Sacristan, finance officer, and organists at St Mary's, an organist at Telham, and a church hall cleaner, caretaker and parish worker. The total of these payments was £28,784 (2024: £26,107).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>Land and Buildings</b>	<b>Church Equipment</b>	<b>Restricted Fund Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>				
As at 1 January 2025	598242	20063	4285	622590
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2025	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 622590</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
As at 1 January 2025	-	20063	4285	24348
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2025	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 24348</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2025</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2024</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>

The land and buildings comprise the Church Hall which is shown at an insurance valuation, which is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees.

The equipment consists of a photocopier, the Lady Chapel chairs purchased in 2007, the piano purchased in 2009, projector and screen purchased in 2011 and kitchen equipment, safe and chairs purchased 2012.

**6 INVESTMENT FIXED ASSETS**

Investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC:

	<b>Purpose:</b>	<b>Historical</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	
		<b>Cost</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Permanent endowments:</b>				
1,574 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Church Fabric	3567	34940	36395
1,822 shares in CBF Investment Fund	General Religious	1500	40445	42129
1,004 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Ecclesiastical	3359	22287	23215
2,601 shares in CBF Fixed Interest Securities	Ecclesiastical	3525	3974	3879
<b>Expendable endowment:</b>				
672 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel Fabric Repairs		-	-
(See note on page 13)			-	-
<b>Total Investments</b>			<u>£ 101646</u>	<u>£ 105618</u>

**7 DEBTORS**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Income tax recoverable	-	-
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	3609	4060
	<u>£ 3609</u>	<u>£ 4060</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	2025	2024
<b>8 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Accruals for utilities and other costs	£ 2400	£ 2280

**9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

	31.12.25	31.12.25	31.12.25	31.12.25
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
Fixed Assets	598242	-	101646	699888
Current Assets	211405	207263		418668
Less: Liabilities	( 2400 )	-	-	( 2400 )
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>£ 807247</b>	<b>£ 207263</b>	<b>£ 101646</b>	<b>£ 1116156</b>

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

	Balance b/f 01.01.25	Income	Expenditure	Transfers/ other gains & losses	Balance c/f 31.12.25
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	639980	140415	149343	13103	644155
Designated fund					
Busy Bees	259	717	380	-	596
Pastoral Care Team	779	55	166	-	668
Magazine	6262	4032	2629	( 2000 )	5665
Legacies	30364	-	-	-	30364
Eco Church Project	1577	90	363	-	1304
Events Committee	291	5438	3653	( 2010 )	66
Legacy	117591	5147	-	-	122738
Events	439	-	-	-	439
Giftday	2962	-	-	( 2962 )	-
Merchandise	1170	133	51	-	1252
	<u>801674</u>	<u>156027</u>	<u>156585</u>	<u>6131</u>	<u>807247</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Fabric funds (incl. Dean and Church Warden's Fabric)	99440	2730	10328	-	91842
Flower fund	1924	507	1453	-	978
Dean and Churchwardens (genera	10000	4168	-	-	14168
Tom Long Legacy	99400	4168	1368	( 6131 )	96069
Telham Organ fund	380	-	-	-	380
Telham Electricity	1900	-	1431	-	469
Organ Scholar	30	2000	990	-	1040
St Mary's Organ Fund	2053	265	-	-	2318
	<u>215126</u>	<u>13838</u>	<u>15570</u>	<u>( 6131 )</u>	<u>207264</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>	<u>105618</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>( 3972 )</u>	<u>101646</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>£ 1122418</b>	<b>£ 169865</b>	<b>£ 172155</b>	<b>£ ( 3972 )</b>	<b>£ 1116156</b>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (Continued)**

- a. The endowment funds comprise investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC as detailed in note 6 to these accounts.
- b. The Fabric Funds are restricted to expenditure on the fabric of the church.
- c. The Pastoral Care Fund is money raised or donated specifically to be used by the Pastoral Care Team for incidental expenses.
- d. The Flower Fund represents monies given and used specifically for the provision of flowers at St Mary's.
- e. The Telham Organ Fund represents surplus funds from an appeal made prior to 1 January 2008 for the major refurbishment of the organ at the Church of the Ascension. The monies shown were transferred to the Parish during 2008 and are held for future major refurbishment of the organ but not for routine tuning or minor maintenance.
- f. Telham Electricity Fund is donations and expenses for the cost of electricity of Telham Church.
- g. St Mary's Organ Fund is donations specifically for the repair and upgrade of the organ. Remaining money will be used for future repairs.
- h. Legacies is a separate fund to be used for projects that may include items for the church and church hall as agreed by the PCC. The Audrey Marshall legacy received in 2024 is being kept in a separate legacies fund along with accrued interest until a decision can be made for its use. It is unrestricted.
- i. The Tom Long Legacy is a restricted fund under the care of the Dean and Churchwardens. Under terms of the will it is to be used for 'primarily for the furtherance of worship at Telham; but is not exclusive to this.

**11 TRANSACTIONS WITH PCC MEMBERS**

No members of the PCC received expenses or payments for services apart from:

T Dixon	£5,545	(2024: £5,548)	Finance Officer
---------	--------	----------------	-----------------

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BATTLE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1141300

---

# Accounts

---



# ***ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE***

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**AND**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**OF THE**

## **PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**St Mary the Virgin, Upper Lake, Battle, TN33 0AN**

***Dean:*** The Very Reverend Lee Duckett, The Deanery, Caldbec Hill, Battle TN33 0JY

***Independent Examiner:*** Manningtons Chartered Accountants, 39 High Street, Battle, TN33 0EE

***Bankers:*** National Westminster Bank plc Hastings (A) Branch, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1GW

**Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Battle**

**Annual Report for 2024**

### **Administrative Information**

St Mary the Virgin is situated adjacent to the High Street, Battle. It is part of the Chichester Diocese within the Church of England.

The PCC Secretary during 2024 was Mr Roy Hyde.

The parish is a charity and is registered with the Charity Commission under the terms of the Charities Act 1993, as subsequently amended. The registration number is 1141300.

Following the 2024 Annual Parochial Church Meeting the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC):

<b>Dean</b>	The Very Reverend Lee Duckett	(Chair)
<b>1. Churchwarden</b>	Mr Paul Lewis	
<b>2. Churchwarden</b>	Mr Philip Collins	
<b>Retired Priest with PTO</b>	The Reverend Canon Edward Bryant Reverend Paul Messenger Reverend Christopher Channer	
<b>Readers</b>	Mrs Alison Hassell, Mr Peter Armstrong	
<b>Deanery Synod Representatives (4)</b> (elected for 3 years )	Mrs J Thorp (re-elected until April 2026) Mr P Armstrong (elected until April 2026) Vacant Vacant	
<b>Elected Members</b> (elected in April)	Until 2024 Mr Richard Williams Mrs Elaine Murray Mr Kieran Hills Mrs Tina Staton	
	Until 2025 Mrs Gia Selmon Mr Rowan Smith (resigned October 2024) Mr John Roberts (resigned August 2024) Mrs Carolyn Collins (re-elected April 2023)	
	Until 2026 Mrs Tracy Dixon (re-elected April 2023) Mrs Jackie Richards (re-elected April 2023) Vacant Vacant	
	Until 2027 Jonny Snow (elected April 2024) Sandra Walker (elected April 2024) Vacant Vacant	

## **Structure, governance and management**

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the Dean; Readers, Mrs Alison Hassell, Mr Peter Armstrong; the Churchwardens and members of the Deanery Synod) and twelve members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The latter twelve members are elected on a rotary basis, four being elected each year to serve for a three-year term. Individuals may serve for a total of six years and then must stand down for two years before being eligible for re-election.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The primary objective of St Mary's PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Dean in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is responsible for the worship and general life of the church throughout the parish and for the buildings at St Mary's site. The Church of the Ascension and Churchyard at Telham are owned by a separate charity, Dean Crake's Gift, which has its own managing Trustees.

Public benefit is achieved through the provision of public worship; education of adults and children in the Christian faith; availability as a venue for Christian marriage services and provision of funeral services and associated pastoral support. The Church Hall provides accommodation for uniformed organisations, Battle & Bexhill Foodbank and other Community Organisations. These are available to all parishioners within the legislative provision of the Church of England.

## **Achievements and performance**

As at 31st December 2024 there were 153 members of the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 37 were not resident in the parish.

The PCC are working with the incumbent to continue to develop a financially sustainable model in accordance with the Mission Action Plan, involving Tourism and Heritage in the Church, and the refurbishment of the Upper Hall.

The Dean worked with the Chichester Diocese DAC and Quinquennial Architect John Bailey from Thomas Ford and Partners to register as a Major Parish Church in the Church of England. At its meeting on 23rd May 2024, it was the view of the Church Buildings Council that Battle Saint Mary the Virgin met the criteria for designation as a Major Parish Church. The Major Church designation was agreed with Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund in recognition of the need to provide additional support for churches that are cathedral-like in terms of size and ministry but without cathedral-like resources. Since then St Mary's has joined the Major Churches Network. The Network is an independent organisation chaired by the Vicar of St Mary Redcliffe, the Reverend Canon Dan Tyndall. The Network operates both nationally and regionally to facilitate discussion of matters of common interest, and to promote the sharing of knowledge and resources. Since then the Dean and the Heritage and Finance Officer Tracy Dixon have attended various Major Churches Network Days in London including St Johns Holland Park, St Alfege, Greenwich, and St Mary Abbots Kensington. This has been very informative learning from the experience of other Major Churches and the challenges they face.

The Dean and Wardens continued to progress feasibility studies working with Thomas Ford and Partners Architects for the reordering of Church of The Ascension Telham. This was to include the installation of an internal toilet and kitchen facilities. The DAC were supportive of the plans as part of mission in the MAP. Over time, various bodies were consulted including the DAC, and Telham Congregation. After various discussions with the congregation, the design was developed looking at both an external building connecting with the church and internal works. A final plan for internal alterations was commissioned by Synergy LLP and fully costed. However the congregation were still deeply divided and could not come to an agreement for the plans and works. Some of the congregation did not want any changes made to the building but to keep it in its current state. The Dean and Church Wardens as trustees came to the decision that due to the increasing building costs and ongoing division within the congregation that the project had now become financially prohibitive. Another meeting was held with the congregation to inform them that the project would not continue and that we would seek to focus on any Quinquennial items that need attention.

An appeal to review congregational giving involved a series of sermons at the 9.30am and 11.15am services at St Marys and Telham on the discipleship of giving. This was followed by a gift day held during Harvest Festival as a response to review and plan individual giving.

*Contribution to the life of local schools:*

The historical relationship between St Mary's and Battle Abbey School continues to flourish. This includes the longstanding annual services for Founders Day Service in the autumn at St Mary's, Christmas Carols, and Speech Day in the summer. Since the beginning of 2022, Battle Abbey School have held their weekly Tuesday assembly and end of term Mark Reading in the church. A series of summer lunchtime concerts held in the church continued to be well attended by parents and members of the public.

The St Mary's Battle Organ Scholarship continues to run well. The esteemed musical director and organist Mr Travis Baker works with the Dean and head of Battle Abbey Music in overseeing the scholarship. The successful organ scholar receives lessons on the church organ develop their understanding of church music and liturgy. Opportunities to play at various church services and festivals are overseen by St Mary's Director of Music Mr Vincent Wade. As part of the scholarship, the student also has an opportunity to visit Chichester Cathedral for a day and meet with the Cathedral Organist and experience Cathedral Worship.

The aim is to encourage students to work towards an Oxbridge, Conservatoire, or Music College scholarship and contribute to the much-needed future organists in the Church of England. Initial funding for the scholarship was for three years from a donation and the Dean is seeking to find further funding for continuing years.

The Dean prepared 12 students from Battle Abbey School for confirmation by running the Youth Alpha Course during lunchtime at the school and a quiet day at Ashburnham Retreat Centre. The Confirmation was conducted at St Mary's by the the Rt Reverend Will Hazlewood, Bishop of Lewes followed by a reception in the Battle Abbey Library.

The Dean has continued to serve as Foundation School Governor at Battle & Langton Church of England Primary School during 2024. Our thanks to Mrs Alison Hassell who served as a Foundation School Governor. After consulting with the Chichester Diocese Education Department, the PCC and school, Mrs Jo Reeves, a member of Battle Baptist Church was appointed on the 6th September 2024 as the second Foundation Governor. The Dean also works ecumenically with Battle Baptist Church to take part in leading collective worship at the school during the week. The annual Leavers' Service and Christmas Carols Service took place at St Mary's which were both well attended by students and parents.

#### *Cranmer Awards School Competition:*

In November St Mary's hosted the Prayer Book Society 'Cranmer Awards' School Regional Competition for Chichester Diocese. Various local schools entered and Battle Abbey School came first in the senior and junior section. Twenty-one candidates representing eleven dioceses met at the impressive Holme Pierrepont Hall just outside Nottingham for the 36th annual awards in February 2025. The senior competition was won by Tomas Cassidy, and in the junior competition Frederica Sheppard from Battle Abbey School came runner up.

Claremont Independent School held three carol services for their pre-prep, prep school and senior school which were well attended and Claverham Community College held their awards evening at the church.

#### *Significant Services at St Mary's*

St Mary's continues to perform its role as a Civic Centre Church with various services including Remembrance Sunday attended by local civic dignitaries. This year the Deputy Lieutenant Simon Corello represented the King and Rear Admiral Paul Kingwell gave the address. RAF Battle 88 SQN ATC formed a guard of honour as well as taking part in the service. The service was very well attended by the community including schools and uniformed organisations.

The Church Carol services including Advent Carols, Carols by Candlelight and Christingle all took place, and were very well attended. Unfortunately, the Carols in the Churchyard was cancelled due to storm Darragh along with many other events that had to be cancelled in Battle that weekend.

#### *Occasional Offices*

There were 8 baptisms, 18 confirmations, 5 weddings, and 13 funerals which took place at St Mary's, and one funeral at the Church of the Ascension, Telham.

#### *Archdeaconry Services*

St Mary's hosted the Archdeacon's Visitation service for the swearing in of Churchwardens, the DAC Roadshow for the East, and Chichester Cathedral Choir visit and welcome of the new Dean of the Cathedral with Choral Evensong for the East of the diocese.

#### **Overview and financial review of the year**

1. The full PCC met eight times, and attended a PCC Day at St Marys in 2024. They considered a number of significant issues; in particular, they considered in detail proposals for the refurbishment of the Church Hall and St Marys. There was discussion on the principle of applying for Heritage Lottery Funding. As a result of this a decision was made to appoint Craigmyle Fundraising Consultants to develop a fundraising strategy and the implementation of feasibility studies. They also met with the DAC and the Quinquennial Architect Mr John Bailey to explore the reordering of St Mary's as part of the MAP in relation to increasing tourism and heritage. Another significant issue was the PCC's response to the direction of the Church of England's LLF and PLF. A PCC day was held with a visiting speaker to look at the theology, doctrine, church history and the law in relation to marriage. A motion was passed by the PCC upholding the Church of England's doctrine of marriage between husband and wife, and the diocesan bishop was notified in writing.
2. The Dean and PCC would like to extend a special thank-you to the Pastoral Care team, who maintain a high level of contact and care for the elderly, the sick, and housebound. Many thanks also to the Sacristan and his assistant for their faithful services and to all who clean and decorate both churches on a regular basis and to those who help to provide and serve refreshments after services. Additionally, thank you to everyone who

helps to organise and run the various services. Thank you to Mrs Julia Thorp who organises the retired clergy and our Readers to cover services at St Mary's and Church of the Ascension Telham.

3. The PCC had pledged £32,000 to the Diocese of Chichester, a carefully considered and budgeted amount based on expected income and available reserves, despite a negative budget for 2024 of £10,000 to £15,000. This pledge was honoured and paid in full.
4. The PCC received a legacy from the will of Audrey Marshall for £113,741.75. This has been placed in a designated fund until a decision on what to spend it on can be made by the PCC. A further £9000 was received from the will of Tom Long, which was placed in the restricted Tom Long fund. Two other legacies of £2000 from the will of Marian Eagles and £7395 from the will of Patricia Tudor were received and added to the general legacies fund.
5. St Mary's Church was delighted to host concerts again and welcomed both Battle Choral Society and the Whatlington Singers for choral concerts
6. The PCC made a total of £5802 of outward giving donations from income received. This included the Christmas Tree Festival, Remembrance Services and the Mothers' Union Services among others.
7. The baby and toddler group Busy Bees continues to flourish under the leadership of Mrs Sue Blackman and Mrs Angie Duckett. Sessions are quickly booked up via the Eventbrite app, remaining full all year.
8. The Battle branch of the Bexhill Foodbank continued to operate from the Church Hall and is increasingly busy. This is an ecumenical venture and is in line with the diocesan encouragement to 'serve the common good'. The PCC charges for this use of the premises, but gives a 99% rebate as part of its endeavours to 'serve the common good'. The foodbank have increased their giving to help mitigate the rising fuel costs.
9. The main Christmas Tree Festival took place over the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December, opening with an Artisan Fair the previous weekend. This proved very popular and is a pattern to consider repeating. The church was very busy and both weekends were a great success. Two charities were sent £1400 each from the funds raised, and further monies went to the Flower Guild, Mothers' Union, Pastoral Care fund and general Church funds.
10. During 2023, Mrs Jan Collins fulfilled the Parish Safeguarding Officer role. There were no safeguarding issues during the year and the PCC has complied with its duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.
11. Volunteers - The Church depends on the voluntary services of many helpers in order to offer such a wide range of activities. This is increasingly more difficult due to the nature of the society in which we live and the increasing demands on parents and grandparents.
12. In line with the Charity Commission's recommendation, it is PCC policy that the balance on any unrestricted funds (excluding property) should equate to at least nine months of unrestricted expenditure (considering also some reliable income) as a contingency against unforeseen situations. This was true at the closing balance 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024. When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the

specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. In particular, we try to enable local people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge of, and trust in Jesus; the occasional offices, and administering the sacraments.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- Missionary and outreach work.
- 

13. To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St Mary's in Battle, Church of The Ascension at Telham and the Deanery.

Signed on behalf of the PCC,

Chairman .....  .....

Date ..... 19-3-2025 .....

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2024
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		223537	12532	-	236069
Activities for generating funds		6804	-	-	6804
Income from investments		11651	8316	-	19967
Income from Church Activities		45631	-	-	45631
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 287623</u>	<u>£ 20848</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 308471</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		4184	-	-	4184
Church Activities		160739	4495	-	165234
Governance Costs		2160	-	-	2160
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 167083</u>	<u>£ 4495</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 171578</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		120540	16353	-	136893
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains /(Losses) on investment assets</i>		-	( 2490 )	2690	200
<i>Fund transfers</i>		( 181 )	181	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>120359</u>	<u>14044</u>	<u>2690</u>	<u>137094</u>
<b>Total funds brought forward 1 January 2024</b>		<u>£ 681315</u>	<u>£ 201082</u>	<u>£ 102928</u>	<u>£ 985325</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward 31 December 2024</b>		<u>£ 801674</u>	<u>£ 215126</u>	<u>£ 105618</u>	<u>£ 1122418</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**


**Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for 2023:**


	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2023
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		93442	33518	-	126960
Activities for generating funds		4275	254	-	4529
Income from investments		4010	8799	-	12809
Income from Church Activities		46296	-	-	46296
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 148023</u>	<u>£ 42571</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 190594</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		350	-	-	350
Church Activities		154652	3378	-	158030
Governance Costs		2340	-	-	2340
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 157342</u>	<u>£ 3378</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 160720</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		( 9319 )	39193	-	29874
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains /(Losses) on investment assets</i>				8452	8452
<i>Fund transfers</i>		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>( 9319 )</u>	<u>39193</u>	<u>8452</u>	<u>38327</u>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2023		<u>690634</u>	<u>£ 161889</u>	<u>£ 94476</u>	<u>£ 946999</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2023		<u>£ 681315</u>	<u>£ 201082</u>	<u>£ 102928</u>	<u>£ 985325</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024	2023
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	598242	598242
Investment Assets	6	<u>105618</u>	<u>102928</u>
		703860	701170
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock		-	-
Debtors	7	4059	2364
Deposits at Central Board of Finance		340206	226874
Cash at Bank, Building Society and in Hand		<u>76573</u>	<u>57198</u>
		420838	286436
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>2280</u>	<u>2281</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		418558	284155
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due after one year		-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	9	<u>£ 1122418</u>	<u>£ 985325</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Funds	10	801674	681315
Restricted Funds	10	215126	201082
Endowment Funds	10	<u>105618</u>	<u>102928</u>
		<u>£ 1122418</u>	<u>£ 985325</u>

Approved by the the Parochial Church Council on 19-3-2025 and signed on it's behalf by:

  
 LEE DUCKETT  
 Dean

  
 PAUL LEWIS  
 Churchwarden

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

**Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**Funds**

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - funds earmarked for a particular future purpose.

Restricted funds -

- i) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest.
- ii) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained: only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the 'purpose' set out in the terms of the original endowment.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Voluntary income**

Collections are recognised when received. Planned giving receivable recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

**Other income**

Rental income from the letting of church premises and all other income is recognised when it is receivable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**Income from investments**

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

**Gains and losses on investments**

Realised gains are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

**Resources used**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted gross.

**Grants**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

**Church Activities**

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

**Fixed Assets**

**Tangible Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Dean and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's Inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

The Church Hall is shown in the accounts at the 2007 insurance value, this is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees. No depreciation is provided on land and buildings as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values

Church equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

**Investments**

Investments are as stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

**Current assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**Chancel trust and income grant**

previous presentation of Chancel Funds had been misunderstood and that a revision was required.

Income received from Chancel trusts is not investment income, as the PCC does not own the trust fund nor its investments.

Accumulated grant income not yet received from Chichester DBF amounted to £2,490 at 31st December 2024 (2023 £2,365). This is available for Chancel repairs upon request to the DBF.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
<b>2 INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid Donations	46738	-	46738	41449
Tax recoverable	16209	-	16209	15284
Collections at services	17313	-	17313	18571
Donations	13846	3000	16846	14689
Grants - Other	2205	-	2205	3905
Legacies and Donations in Memory	123137	9000	132137	30000
Other Voluntary Income	4089	532	4621	3062
	<u>£ 223537</u>	<u>£ 12532</u>	<u>£ 236069</u>	<u>£ 126960</u>
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>				
Christmas Tree Festival	4202	-	4202	4195
General fund raising	2602	-	2602	334
	<u>£ 6804</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 6804</u>	<u>£ 4529</u>
<b>c. Income from investments</b>				
Dividends and interest	<u>£ 11651</u>	<u>£ 8316</u>	<u>£ 19967</u>	<u>£ 12809</u>
<b>d. Income from Church Activities</b>				
Church and Church Hall lettings	19964	-	19964	19800
Benedicta Whistler Centre	3396	-	3396	3620
Fees from weddings etc	17774	-	17774	19058
Magazine	3571	-	3571	3818
Insurance claim	926	-	926	-
	<u>£ 45631</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 45631</u>	<u>£ 46296</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME RESOURCES</b>	<u>£ 287623</u>	<u>£ 20848</u>	<u>£ 308471</u>	<u>£ 190594</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
<b>3 RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>a. Costs of generating voluntary income</b>				
Stewardship costs	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>b. Fundraising costs</b>	£ 4184	£ -	£ 4184	£ 350
<b>c. Church activities</b>				
Ministry costs:				
Parish contribution to Diocese	30500	1500	32000	31950
Other clergy costs	14880	-	14880	14469
Church running expenses	27240	1448	28688	30208
Church maintenance	9165	-	9165	13910
Upkeep of services	18293	990	19283	19256
Stationery and telephone	2365	-	2365	1911
Expenditure on magazine	2471	-	2471	2356
Church Halls running costs	19038	-	19038	19435
Benedicta Whistler Centre	6000	-	6000	2406
Flowers	18	557	575	740
Mission, Outreach and Charitable Giving	5576	-	5576	8258
Staff wages	12404	-	12404	11197
Bank charges	472	-	472	393
Sundry and subscriptions	6760	-	6760	1087
Eco Church Garden	3225	-	3225	405
Merchandise Purchases	2332	-	2332	47
	<u>£ 160739</u>	<u>£ 4495</u>	<u>£ 165234</u>	<u>£ 158030</u>
<b>d. Governance costs</b>				
Independent examination fee	2160	-	2160	2340
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	-
	<u>£ 2160</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 2160</u>	<u>£ 2340</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<u>£ 167083</u>	<u>£ 4495</u>	<u>£ 171578</u>	<u>£ 160720</u>

**4 REGULAR CONTRACTORS' COSTS**

During the year payments were made to a church caretaker, parish clerk, finance officer, and organists at St Mary's, an organist at Telham, and a church hall cleaner, caretaker and parish worker. The total of these payments was £26,107 (2023: £20,910).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Land and Buildings	Church Equipment	Restricted Fund Equipment	Total
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>				
As at 1 January 2024	598242	20063	4285	622590
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2024	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 622590</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
As at 1 January 2024	-	20063	4285	24348
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2024	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 24348</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2024</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2023</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>

The land and buildings comprise the Church Hall which is shown at an insurance valuation, which is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees.

The equipment consists of a photocopier, the Lady Chapel chairs purchased in 2007, the piano purchased in 2009, projector and screen purchased in 2011 and kitchen equipment, safe and chairs purchased 2012.

**6 INVESTMENT FIXED ASSETS**

Investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC:

	Purpose:	Historical	Market Value	
		Cost	2024	2023
<b>Permanent endowments:</b>				
1,574 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Church Fabric	3567	36395	35281
1,822 shares in CBF Investment Fund	General Religious	1500	42129	41187
1,004 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Ecclesiastical	3359	23215	22695
2,601 shares in CBF Fixed Interest Securities	Ecclesiastical	3525	3879	3765
<b>Expendable endowment:</b>				
672 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel Fabric Repairs	Income only	-	-
<b>Total Investments</b>			<u>£ 105618</u>	<u>£ 102928</u>
			<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>

**7 DEBTORS**

Income tax recoverable	-	-
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	-	2364
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	4060	-
	<u>£ 4060</u>	<u>£ 2364</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	2024	2023
<b>8 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Accruals for utilities and other costs	£ <u>2280</u>	£ <u>2281</u>

**9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Fixed Assets	598242	-	105618	703860
Current Assets	205712	215126		420838
Less: Liabilities	( 2280 )	-	-	( 2280 )
<b>Fund Balance</b>	£ <u>801674</u>	£ <u>215126</u>	£ <u>105618</u>	£ <u>1122418</u>

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

	Balance b/f 01.01.24	Income	Expenditure	Transfers/ other gains & losses	Balance c/f 31.12.24
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	638799	144429	148466	5218	495551
Designated fund					
Busy Bees	683	595	459	( 560 )	259
Pastoral Care Team	358	-	81	502	779
Magazine	7161	3571	2470	( 2000 )	6262
Legacies	29025	9394	6055	( 2000 )	30364
Eco Church Project	3212	1608	3243		1577
Events Committee	1624	4552	4544	( 1341 )	291
Legacy	-	117591	-	-	117591
Events	-	439	-	-	439
Giftday	-	2962	-	-	2962
Merchandise	453	2482	1765	-	1170
	<u>681315</u>	<u>287623</u>	<u>167083</u>	<u>( 181 )</u>	<u>801674</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Fabric funds (incl. Dean and Church Warden's Fabric)	94717	4723	-	-	99440
Flower fund	1769	531	557	181	1924
Dean and Churchwardens (genera	10000	-	-	-	10000
Chichester DBF Chancel insuranc	2365	125	-	( 2490 )	0
grant					
Tom Long Legacy	88431	12469	1500	-	99400
Telham Organ fund	380	-	-	-	380
Telham Electricity	1348	2000	1448	-	1900
Organ Scholar	20	1000	990	-	30
St Mary's Organ Fund	2053	-	-	-	2053
	<u>201082</u>	<u>20848</u>	<u>4495</u>	<u>( 2309 )</u>	<u>215126</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>	<u>102928</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2690</u>	<u>105618</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	£ <u>985325</u>	£ <u>308471</u>	£ <u>171578</u>	£ <u>200</u>	£ <u>1122418</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (Continued)**

- a. The endowment funds comprise investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC as detailed in note 6 to these accounts.
- b. The Fabric Funds are restricted to expenditure on the fabric of the church.
- c. The Pastoral Care Fund is money raised or donated specifically to be used by the Pastoral Care Team for incidental expenses.
- d. The Flower Fund represents monies given and used specifically for the provision of flowers at St Mary's.
- e. The Telham Organ Fund represents surplus funds from an appeal made prior to 1 January 2008 for the major refurbishment of the organ at the Church of the Ascension. The monies shown were transferred to the Parish during 2008 and are held for future major refurbishment of the organ but not for routine tuning or minor maintenance.
- f. Telham Electricity Fund is donations and expenses for the cost of electricity of Telham Church.
- g. St Mary's Organ Fund is donations specifically for the repair and upgrade of the organ. Remaining money will be used for future repairs.
- h. Legacies is a separate fund to be used for projects that may include items for the church and church hall as agreed by the PCC. The Audrey Marshall legacy received in 2024 is being kept in a separate legacies fund along with accrued interest until a decision can be made for its use. It is unrestricted.
- i. The Tom Long Legacy is a restricted fund under the care of the Dean and Churchwardens. Under terms of the will it is to be used for 'primarily for the furtherance of worship at Telham; but is not exclusive to this.

**11 TRANSACTIONS WITH PCC MEMBERS**

No members of the PCC received expenses or payments for services apart from:  
T Dixon £5,548 (2023: £5,184) Finance Officer

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 16.

### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R T K WALSH, FCCA  
MANNINGTONS  
Chartered Accountants  
39 High Street  
Battle  
East Sussex  
TN33 0EE



Date: 28/03/25

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BATTLE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1141300

---

# Accounts

---

**ST MARY**  
**THE VIRGIN**  
**BATTLE**

***ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE***

**ANNUAL REPORT**

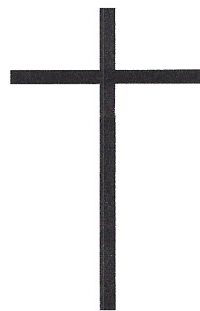
**AND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**OF THE**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**For the year ended 31 December 2023**



**St Mary the Virgin, High Street, Battle**

***Dean:*** The Very Revd Lee Duckett, The Deanery, Caldbec Hill, Battle TN33 0JY

***Independent Examiner:*** Manningtons Chartered Accountants, 39 High Street, Battle, TN33 0EE

***Bankers:*** National Westminster Bank plc Hastings (A) Branch, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1GW

## Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Battle

### Annual Report for 2023

#### Administrative Information

St Mary the Virgin is situated adjacent to the High Street, Battle. It is part of the Chichester Diocese within the Church of England.

The PCC Secretary during 2023 was Mr Roy Hyde.

The parish is a charity and is registered with the Charity Commission under the terms of the Charities Act 1993, as subsequently amended. The registration number is 1141300.

Following the 2023 Annual Parochial Church Meeting the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC):

**Dean** The Very Revd Lee Duckett Chair

**1. Churchwarden** Mr Paul Lewis

**2. Churchwarden** Mr Philip Collins

**Retired Priest with PTO** The Rev. Canon Edward Bryant  
Revd P Messenger  
Revd C Channer

**Readers** Mrs Alison Hassell, Mr Peter Armstrong

**Deanery Synod Representatives (4)**  
(elected for 3 years )  
Mrs A Hassell (until April 2023)  
Mrs B Cox (resigned April 2023)  
Mrs J Thorp (re-elected until April 2026)  
Mr P Armstrong (elected until April 2026)  
Vacant  
Vacant

**Elected Members**  
(elected in April)

Until 2023	Mrs Sue Blackman (retired April 2023) Mr David Parfitt (retired April 2023) Mrs Patricia Roberts (retired April 2023) Mrs Carolyn Collins (elected April 2022) Mrs Tracy Dixon (co-opted 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2022) Mrs Jackie Richards (co-opted May 2022)
Until 2024	Mr Richard Williams Mrs Elaine Murray Mr Kieran Hills Mrs Tina Staton
Until 2025	Mrs Gia Selmon Mr Rowan Smith Mr John Roberts Mrs Carolyn Collins (re-elected April 2023)
Until 2026	Mrs Tracy Dixon (re-elected April 2023) Mrs Jackie Richards (re-elected April 2023) Vacant Vacant

## **Structure, governance and management**

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the Dean; Readers - Mrs Alison Hassell, Mr Peter Armstrong; the Churchwardens and members of the Deanery Synod) and twelve members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The latter twelve members are elected on a rotary basis, four being elected each year to serve for a three-year term. Individuals may serve for a total of six years and then must stand down for two years before being eligible for re-election.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The primary objective of St Mary's PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Dean in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is responsible for the worship and general life of the church throughout the parish and for the buildings at St Mary's site. The Church of the Ascension and Churchyard at Telham are owned by a separate charity, Dean Crake's Gift, which has its own managing Trustees.

Public benefit is achieved through the provision of public worship; education of adults and children in the Christian faith; availability as a venue for Christian marriage services and provision of funeral services and associated pastoral support. The Church Hall provides accommodation for uniformed organisations, Battle & Bexhill Foodbank and other Community Organisations. These are available to all parishioners within the legislative provision of the Church of England.

## **Achievements and performance**

As at 31st December 2023 there were 151 members of the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 46 were not resident in the parish. The numbers have risen slightly in the past year.

The PCC are working with the incumbent to continue to develop a financially sustainable model in accordance with the Mission Action Plan, involving Tourism and Heritage in the Church, and the refurbishment of the Upper Hall. Work has begun on registering St Mary's as a Major Church working with the DAC to secure registration. Work also continues to develop a plan for the reordering of Church of The Ascension Telham. An appeal to review congregational giving involved a series of sermons at the 9.30am and 11.15am services on the discipleship of giving. This was followed by a gift day held as a response to review and plan individual giving.

### *Contribution to the life of local schools:*

The historical relationship between St Mary's and Battle Abbey School continues to flourish. This includes the longstanding annual services for Founders Day Service in the autumn at St Mary's, Christmas Carols, and Speech Day in the summer. Since the beginning of 2022, Battle Abbey School have held their weekly Tuesday assembly and end of term Mark Reading in the church. A series of summer lunchtime concerts held in the church were well attended by parents and members of the public.

A St Mary's Battle Organ Scholarship was set up to enable a student from the school to undertake organ lessons and attend a day at Chichester Cathedral in the autumn, to gain experience of Cathedral worship. The aim is to encourage future students to work towards an Oxbridge, Conservatoire, or Musical College scholarship and contribute to the much-needed future organists in the Church of England. Funding for this was from a donation for this initiative and the Dean is seeking to find further funding for continuing years. The esteemed organist Mr Travis Baker works with the Dean to run the scholarship and teaches both organ and piano lessons in St Mary's.

The Dean and Church Reader Mrs Alison Hassell have continued to serve as Foundation School Governors at Battle & Langton Church of England Primary School during 2023. The Dean also works ecumenically with Battle Baptist Church to take part in leading collective worship at the school during the week. The annual Leavers' Service and Christmas Carols Service took place at St Mary's which were both well attended by students and parents.

*Cranmer Awards School Competition:*

St Mary's hosted its third annual Prayer Book Society 'Cranmer Awards' School Regional Competition for Chichester Diocese. Various local schools and wider afield entered up to 4 students each in both the junior and senior categories with 2 finalists being entered in the national final at Liverpool Hope University in February 2023, and Hampton Court Palace in February 2024.

Claremont Independent School held three carol services for their pre-prep, prep school and senior school and Claverham Community College held their awards evening at the beginning of the year.

*Significant Services at St Mary's*

St Mary's continues to perform its role as a Civic Centre Church with various services including Remembrance Sunday attended by local civic dignitaries, including High Sheriff Richard Bickersteth, constituency MP Huw Merriman, community leaders and uniformed organisations. The RAF Battle 88 SQN ATC formed a guard of honour as well as taking part in the service.

In May the Dean led a vigil for the King before the Coronation, and conducted an ecumenical Celebration Coronation Service for the King attended by the Deputy Lieutenant, Graham Peters DL and his wife Mrs Sarah Peters along with civic dignitaries, religious and community leaders, uniformed organisations and Baptist, Methodist and Roman Catholic congregations.

In September, the Dean conducted a Civic Service for Rother District Council attended by the Lord Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Councillors, and Officers of Rother District council, Mayors, Chairs and Clerks of all the parishes.

The Church Carol services including Advent Carols, Carols by Candlelight and Christingle all took place, and were very well attended. Carols in the Churchyard continues to grow with people who would not normally come to a church service.

The Dean represented the parish after being invited to attend the Thanksgiving Service and Summer Reception for the High Sherriff of East Sussex with his wife.

The Dean as Chairman of the Prayer Book Society for Chichester Diocese represented the parish with more than 600 people gathered in Westminster in October to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Prayer Book Society. A service of Holy Communion was led in St Margaret's church by the Society's Ecclesiastical Patron, the Rt Revd and Rt Hon. The Lord Chartres as well as attending the Prayer Book Society lunch in Church House with an address by the Bishop of Oswestry, the Rt Revd Paul Thomas. The Dean also attended the Prayer Book Society service at Chichester Cathedral and stepped in as the after dinner speaker on the day.

The Dean as president of the Battle Choral Society has worked with the society to enable them to relocate, gather and rehearse at St Mary's. The Choral Society are continuing to grow and perform concerts in the church. Our resident Organist Mr Vincent Wade has become the Musical Director of the Society and has helped to reinvigorate the Choir along with the Secretary, Mrs Christine Smith.

#### *Occasional Offices*

There were three baptisms, one confirmation, ten weddings, nineteen funerals and three burials of ashes which took place at St Mary's as well as an Archdeacon's Visitation service for the swearing in of Churchwardens.

#### **Overview and financial review of the year**

1. The full PCC met eight times in 2023. They considered a number of significant issues; in particular, they considered in detail proposals for the refurbishment of the Church Hall. They also met with the DAC and the Quinquennial Architect Mr John Bailey to explore the reordering of St Mary's as part of the MAP in relation to increasing tourism and heritage.
2. The Dean and PCC would like to extend a special thank-you to the Pastoral Care team, who maintain a high level of contact and care for the elderly, the sick, and housebound. Many thanks also to the Sacristan and his assistant for their faithful services and to all who clean and decorate both churches on a regular basis and to those who help to provide and serve refreshments after services. Additionally, thank you to everyone who helps to organise and run the various services. Thank you to Mrs Julia Thorp who organises the retired clergy and our Readers to cover services at St Mary's and Church of the Ascension Telham.
3. The PCC had pledged £28,000 to the Diocese of Chichester, a carefully considered and budgeted amount based on expected income and available reserves. However, our additional payment from 2022 of £3950 was also added to our pledge for 2023, but this was not noticed until the year end. Therefore, the PCC has paid £31950 for 2023.
4. The PCC received a further payment from the restricted Tom Long Legacy, which was added to funds in the Dean and Churchwardens CCLA account to earn interest until it is needed.
5. St Mary's Church was delighted to host concerts again and welcomed both Battle Choral and the Whatlington Singers for choral concerts. A new initiative

has been to work with Wealden Music Box to help local world class musicians rebuild their careers and livelihood after Covid with St Mary's as one of their venues.


6. St Mary's Church was pleased to host another fundraising event for Ukraine, at which £3034 was received in donations and purchases and forwarded appropriately.
7. The PCC made a total of £8,363 of outward giving donations from income received. This included money from the Ukraine fundraising event, the Christmas Tree Festival, Remembrance Services and the Civic Service for the Coronation among others.
8. St Mary's Church Flower Guild contributed to the Celebration Coronation Service by arranging and displaying locally and sustainably sourced flowers in line with the King's love of nature and green policies.
9. St Mary's Church joined with much of the country in celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III. A vigil was held and a Civic Service held with the attendance of the Deputy Lieutenant and High Sheriff.
10. The baby and toddler group Busy Bees continues to flourish under the leadership of Mrs Sue Blackman, Mrs Margaret Roberts and Mrs Angie Duckett. Sessions are quickly booked up via the Eventbrite app, remaining full all year, with requests for more sessions. More volunteers would be required to enable this to happen and provide this much needed care.
11. The Battle branch of the Bexhill Foodbank continued to operate from the Church Hall and is increasingly busy. This is an ecumenical venture and is in line with the diocesan encouragement to 'serve the common good'. The PCC charges for this use of the premises, but gives a 99% rebate as part of its endeavours to 'serve the common good'. The foodbank have increased their giving to help mitigate the rising fuel costs.
12. The Christmas Tree Festival took place over the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> November and the subsequent fortnight. The church was very busy and the weekend was a great success. Three charities were sent £1000 each from the funds raised, and further monies went to the Flower Guild, Mothers' Union and the Pastoral Care funds.
13. During 2023, Mrs Jan Collins fulfilled the Parish Safeguarding Officer role. There were no safeguarding issues during the year and the PCC has complied with its duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.
14. Volunteers - The Church depends on the voluntary services of many helpers in order to offer such a wide range of activities. This is increasingly more difficult due to the nature of the society in which we live and the increasing demands on parents and grandparents.

15. In line with the Charity Commission's recommendation, it is PCC policy that the balance on any unrestricted funds (excluding property) should equate to at least nine months of unrestricted expenditure (considering also some reliable income) as a contingency against unforeseen situations. This was true at the closing balance 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. In particular, we try to enable local people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge of, and trust in Jesus; the occasional offices, and administering the sacraments.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- Missionary and outreach work.
- 

16. To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St Mary's in Battle, Church of The Ascension at Telham and the Deanery.

Signed on behalf of the PCC,

Chairman .....  .....

Date ..... 13-03-2024 .....

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2023
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
	2				
Voluntary Income		93442	33518	-	126960
Activities for generating funds		4275	254	-	4529
Income from investments		4010	8799	-	12809
Income from Church Activities		46296	-	-	46296
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 148023</u>	<u>£ 42571</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 190594</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		350	-	-	350
Church Activities		154652	3378	-	158030
Governance Costs		2340	-	-	2340
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 157342</u>	<u>£ 3378</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 160720</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		( 9319 )	39193	-	29874
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains /(Losses) on investment assets</i>				8452	8452
<i>Fund transfers</i>		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>( 9319 )</u>	<u>39193</u>	<u>8452</u>	<u>38327</u>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2023		<u>£ 690634</u>	<u>£ 161889</u>	<u>£ 94476</u>	<u>£ 946999</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2023		<u>£ 681315</u>	<u>£ 201082</u>	<u>£ 102928</u>	<u>£ 985325</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for 2022:

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2022
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		108130	61677	-	169807
Activities for generating funds		3486	-	-	3486
Income from investments		4820	30	-	4850
Income from Church Activities		29097	3485	-	32582
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 145533</u>	<u>£ 65192</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 210725</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income				-	-
Fund Raising Costs		280		-	280
Church Activities		139241	5772	-	145013
Governance Costs		1914		-	1914
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 141435</u>	<u>£ 5772</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 147207</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		4098	59420	-	63518
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains /(Losses) on investment assets</i>				( 12682 )	( 12682 )
<i>Fund transfers</i>		3485	( 3485 )		
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>7583</u>	<u>55935</u>	<u>( 12682 )</u>	<u>50837</u>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2022		<u>683051</u>	<u>£ 105954</u>	<u>£ 107158</u>	<u>£ 896163</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2022		<u>£ 690634</u>	<u>£ 161889</u>	<u>£ 94476</u>	<u>£ 946999</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023	2022
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	598242	598242
Investment Assets	6	<u>102928</u>	<u>94476</u>
		701170	692718
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock		-	-
Debtors	7	2364	2291
Deposits at Central Board of Finance		226874	131449
Cash at Bank, Building Society and in Hand		<u>57198</u>	<u>122642</u>
		286436	256382
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>2281</u>	<u>2101</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		284155	254281
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due after one year		-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	9	£ <u><u>985325</u></u>	£ <u><u>946999</u></u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Funds	10	681315	690634
Restricted Funds	10	201082	161889
Endowment Funds	10	<u>102928</u>	<u>94476</u>
		£ <u><u>985325</u></u>	£ <u><u>946999</u></u>

Approved by the the Parochial Church Council on 13 -03-2024 and signed on it's behalf by:



LEE DUCKETT  
Dean



PAUL LEWIS  
Churchwarden

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

**Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**Funds**

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - funds earmarked for a particular future purpose.

Restricted funds -

- i) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest.
- ii) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained: only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the 'purpose' set out in the terms of the original endowment.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Voluntary income**

Collections are recognised when received. Planned giving receivable recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

**Other income**

Rental income from the letting of church premises and all other income is recognised when it is receivable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**Income from investments**

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

**Gains and losses on investments**

Realised gains are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

**Resources used**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted gross.

**Grants**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

**Church Activities**

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

**Fixed Assets**

**Tangible Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Dean and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's Inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

The Church Hall is shown in the accounts at the 2007 insurance value, this is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees. No depreciation is provided on land and buildings as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material.

Church equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

**Investments**

Investments are as stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

**Current assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**Chancel trust and income grant**

Following a review of the law the Chichester DBF decided in 2019 that the previous presentation of Chancel Funds had been misunderstood and that a revision was required.

Income received from Chancel trusts is not investment income, as the PCC does not own the trust fund nor its investments.

Income from Chichester DBF is a Restricted charitable grant to reimburse the cost of insuring the Chancel, which previously has been paid by the PCC from General Funds. In 2023 the grant amounted to £nil (2022 £nil).

The PCC decided to transfer the Restricted grant to General Fund to replenish that fund for the cost of Chancel insurance.

The previously disclosed asset value amounting to £9690.98 has been removed from the value of PCC investments to reflect that the PCC does not legally nor beneficially own the Chancel trust fund nor its investments.

Accumulated grant income not yet received from Chichester DBF and included in Debtors amounted to £2364.55 at 31st December 2023 (2022 £2291.23).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
<b>2 INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid Donations	41449	-	41449	39987
Tax recoverable	15284	-	15284	13959
Collections at services	18571	-	18571	15057
Donations	11171	3518	14689	19299
Grants - Other	3905	-	3905	6628
Legacies and Donations in Memory	-	30000	30000	68500
Other Voluntary Income	3062	-	3062	6377
	<u>£ 93442</u>	<u>£ 33518</u>	<u>£ 126960</u>	<u>£ 169807</u>
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>				
Christmas Tree Festival	3941	254	4195	2823
General fund raising	334	-	334	663
	<u>£ 4275</u>	<u>£ 254</u>	<u>£ 4529</u>	<u>£ 3486</u>
<b>c. Income from investments</b>				
Dividends and interest	<u>£ 4010</u>	<u>£ 8799</u>	<u>£ 12809</u>	<u>£ 4850</u>
<b>d. Income from Church Activities</b>				
Church and Church Hall lettings	19800	-	19800	13815
Benedicta Whistler Centre	3620	-	3620	1125
Fees from weddings etc	19058	-	19058	10586
Magazine	3818	-	3818	3571
Insurance claim	-	-	-	3485
	<u>£ 46296</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 46296</u>	<u>£ 32582</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME RESOURCES</b>	<u>£ 148023</u>	<u>£ 42571</u>	<u>£ 190594</u>	<u>£ 210725</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023	2022
<b>3 RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>a. Costs of generating voluntary income</b>				
Stewardship costs	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>b. Fundraising costs</b>	£ 350	£ -	£ 350	£ 280
<b>c. Church activities</b>				
Ministry costs:				
Parish contribution to Diocese	31950	-	31950	31950
Other clergy costs	14469	-	14469	14283
Church running expenses	28560	1648	30208	18435
Church maintenance	13910	-	13910	21627
Upkeep of services	18266	990	19256	16835
Stationery and telephone	1911	-	1911	2209
Expenditure on magazine	2356	-	2356	2228
Church Halls running costs	19435	-	19435	17454
Benedicta Whistler Centre	2406	-	2406	1136
Flowers	-	740	740	1153
Mission, Outreach and Charitable Giving	8258	-	8258	10142
Staff wages	11197	-	11197	3507
Bank charges	393	-	393	371
Sundry and subscriptions	1087	-	1087	2183
Eco Church Garden	405	-	405	1500
Merchandise Purchases	47	-	47	-
	£ 154652	£ 3378	£ 158030	£ 145013
<b>d. Governance costs</b>				
Independent examination fee	2340	-	2340	1914
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	-
	£ 2340	£ -	£ 2340	£ 1914
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<u>£ 157342</u>	<u>£ 3378</u>	<u>£ 160720</u>	<u>£ 147207</u>

**4 REGULAR CONTRACTORS' COSTS**

During the year payments were made to a church caretaker, parish clerk, finance officer, and organists at St Mary's, an organist at Telham, and a church hall cleaner and caretaker. The total of these payments was £20,910 (2022: £18,945).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>Land and Buildings</b>	<b>Church Equipment</b>	<b>Restricted Fund Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>				
As at 1 January 2023	598242	20063	4285	622590
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 622590</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
As at 1 January 2023	-	20063	4285	24348
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 24348</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2023</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2022</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>

The land and buildings comprise the Church Hall which is shown at an insurance valuation, which is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees.

The equipment consists of a photocopier, the Lady Chapel chairs purchased in 2007, the piano purchased in 2009, projector and screen purchased in 2011 and kitchen equipment, safe and chairs purchased 2012.

**6 INVESTMENT FIXED ASSETS**

Investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC:

	<b>Purpose:</b>	<b>Historical</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	
		<b>Cost</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Permanent endowments:</b>				
1,574 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Church Fabric	3567	35281	32521
1,822 shares in CBF Investment Fund	General Religious	1500	41187	37645
1,004 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Ecclesiastical	3359	22695	20744
2,601 shares in CBF Fixed Interest Securities	Ecclesiastical	3525	3765	3566
<b>Expendable endowment:</b>				
672 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel Fabric Repairs	Income only	-	-
<b>Total Investments</b>			<u>£ 102928</u>	<u>£ 94476</u>
			<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>

**7 DEBTORS**

Income tax recoverable	-	-
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	2364	2291
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
	<u>£ 2364</u>	<u>£ 2291</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
<b>8 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Accruals for utilities and other costs	£ 2281	£ 2101

**9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Fixed Assets	598242	-	102928	701170
Current Assets	85353	201083		286436
Less: Liabilities	( 2281 )	-	-	( 2281 )
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<u>£ 681314</u>	<u>£ 201083</u>	<u>£ 102928</u>	<u>£ 985325</u>

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

	Balance b/f 01.01.23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers/ other gains & losses	Balance c/f 31.12.23
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	641635	135845	151433	12753	638800
Designated fund					
Busy Bees	590	896	803		683
Pastoral Care Team	258	269	169		358
Magazine	5699	3817	2355		7161
Legacies	42025	-	-	( 13000 )	29025
Eco Church Project	( 339 )	3905	404	50	3212
Events Committee	767	3291	2131	( 303 )	1624
Merchandise	-	-	47	500	453
	<u>690635</u>	<u>148023</u>	<u>157342</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>681315</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Fabric funds (incl. Dean and Church Warden's Fabric)	89322	5395	-		94717
Flower fund	1737	771	739		1769
Dean and Churchwardens (general)	10000	-	-		10000
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	2291	74			2365
Tom Long Legacy	55100	33331	-		88431
Telham Organ fund	380	-	-		380
Telham Electricity	997	2000	1649		1348
Organ Scholar	10	1000	990		20
St Mary's Organ Fund	2053	-	-		2053
	<u>161889</u>	<u>42571</u>	<u>3378</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>201082</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>	<u>94476</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>8452</u>	<u>102928</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>£ 947000</u>	<u>£ 190594</u>	<u>£ 160720</u>	<u>£ 8452</u>	<u>£ 985325</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (Continued)**

- a. The endowment funds comprise investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC as detailed in note 6 to these accounts.
- b. The Fabric Funds are restricted to expenditure on the fabric of the church.
- c. The Pastoral Care Fund is money raised or donated specifically to be used by the Pastoral Care Team for incidental expenses.
- d. The Flower Fund represents monies given and used specifically for the provision of flowers at St Mary's.
- e. The Telham Organ Fund represents surplus funds from an appeal made prior to 1 January 2008 for the major refurbishment of the organ at the Church of the Ascension. The monies shown were transferred to the Parish during 2008 and are held for future major refurbishment of the organ but not for routine tuning or minor maintenance.
- f. Telham Electricity Fund is donations and expenses for the cost of electricity of Telham Church.
- g. St Mary's Organ Fund is donations specifically for the repair and upgrade of the organ. Remaining money will be used for future repairs.
- h. Legacies is a separate fund to be used for projects that may include items for the church and church hall as agreed by the PCC.
- i. The Tom Long Legacy is a restricted fund under the care of the Dean and Churchwardens. Under the terms of the will it is to be used for 'primarily for the furtherance of worship at Telham; but is not exclusive to this.

**11 TRANSACTIONS WITH PCC MEMBERS**

No members of the PCC received expenses or payments for services apart from:

T Dixon	£ 5184	Finance Officer
---------	--------	-----------------

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF  
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 7 to 16.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R T K WALSH, FCCA  
MANNINGTONS  
Chartered Accountants  
39 High Street  
Battle  
East Sussex  
TN33 0EE



Date: 21/03/24

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BATTLE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1141300

---

# Accounts

---

**ST MARY  
THE VIRGIN  
BATTLE**

***ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE***

**ANNUAL REPORT**

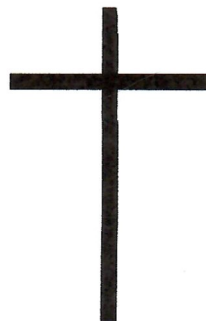
**AND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**OF THE**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**For the year ended 31 December 2022**



**St. Mary the Virgin, High Street, Battle**

***Dean:* The Very Revd Lee Duckett, The Deanery, Caldbec Hill, Battle TN33 0JY**



## **Structure, governance and management**

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the Dean; Mrs Alison Hassell – Reader; the Churchwardens and members of the Deanery Synod) and twelve members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The latter twelve members are elected on a rotary basis, four being elected each year to serve for a three-year term. Individuals may serve for a total of six years and then must stand down for two years before being eligible for re-election.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The primary objective of St Mary's PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Dean in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is responsible for the worship and general life of the church throughout the parish and for the buildings at St Mary's site. The Church of the Ascension and Churchyard at Telham are owned by a separate charity, Dean Crake's Gift, which has its own managing Trustees.

Public benefit is achieved through the provision of public worship; education of adults and children in the Christian faith; availability as a venue for Christian marriage services and provision of funeral services and associated pastoral support. These are available to all parishioners within the legislative provision of the Church of England.

## **Achievements and performance**

As at 31st December 2022 there were 143 members of the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 42 were not resident in the parish. The numbers have remained fairly steady, despite the sad loss of several members of the congregations.

After re-opening following lockdown and the closure of church buildings in 2021 the parish and the charity has bounced back strongly with congregational attendance and church activities well attended. Financially, the charity survived the closure period well, in part helped by Government funding channelled through local authorities to charities and community facilities.

Contribution to the life of local schools:

The growing links with Battle Abbey School continue to be strengthened. A request from the school at the beginning of 2022 to be able to use the church for their weekly Tuesday assembly was granted and this has proven to be very helpful to the school. Other significant use of the church by Battle Abbey School includes The Dean hosting their Founders Day Service in the Autumn at St Mary's, the end of year Christmas Carols, and Speech Day in the summer.

The Dean worked with the headmaster of Battle Abbey School by preparing 11 students for the first school confirmation service since the 1980s. This resulted in 8 students being confirmed at Chichester Cathedral by the Bishop of Horsham in May 2022.

A St Mary's Battle Organ Scholarship was set up to enable a student from the school to undertake organ lessons and attend a day at Chichester Cathedral in the autumn, to gain experience of Cathedral worship. This will hopefully encourage future students to work towards an Oxbridge or Musical College or Conservatoire scholarships and contribute to the much needed future organists in the Church of England. Funding for this was from a donation for this initiative and the Dean is seeking to find further funding for continuing years.

The Dean and Church Reader Mrs Alison Hassell have continued to serve as Foundation School Governors at Battle & Langton Church of England Primary School during 2022. The Dean also works ecumenically with Battle Baptist Church to take part in leading collective worship during the week.

**Cranmer Awards School Competition:**

St Mary's hosted its third annual Prayer Book Society 'Cranmer Awards' School Regional Competition for Chichester Diocese. Various local schools and wider afield entered up to 4 students each in both the junior and senior categories with 2 finalists being entered in the national final at Liverpool Hope University in February 2023.

Significant annual services at St Mary's were very well attended with numbers up on the past few years. The services included Remembrance Sunday attended by local civic dignitaries, community leaders and uniformed organisations.

Church Carol services (Advent Carols and Nine Lessons and Carols) and Christingle all took place, and were also very well attended. Carols in the Churchyard, first introduced as a response to Covid was held again as a now regular part of the Christmas programme and well received and continues to grow in number with people who would not normally come to a church service.

Two significant civic services were held in 2022. The first for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which was also on the Feast of Pentecost. Worship was conducted by the Bishop of Lewes who blessed a Rowan Tree in the graveyard as part of the Queen's Canopy initiative. HM Vice Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex attended along with Huw Merriman MP and other civic dignitaries and church leaders and churches from Battle. The second major civic service was for the late HM Queen Elizabeth's death. Protocols were followed according to guidance from The Church of England and Operation London Bridge. St Mary's fulfilled its role as the Civic Parish Church during this time with the church open for mourning, and a book of remembrance for signing by the public. The Dean attended the proclamation in Battle as well as visiting the late Queen lying in state in the Great Hall in Westminster on behalf of St Mary's and the parish. The Civic service for the Queen was well attended by the town and HM Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex along with other civic dignitaries and church leaders.

There were nine baptisms, seven confirmations, four weddings, thirteen funerals and three burials of ashes which took place at St Mary's as well as an Archdeacon's Visitation service for the swearing in of Churchwardens.

## **Overview and financial review of the year**

1. The full PCC met eight times in 2022. They considered a number of significant issues; in particular, they considered in detail proposals for the refurbishment of the Church Hall.
2. The Dean and PCC would like to extend a special thank-you to the Pastoral Care team, who maintain a high level of contact and care for the elderly, the sick, and housebound. Many thanks also to the Sacristan and his assistant for their faithful services and to all who clean and decorate both churches on a regular basis and to those who help to provide and serve refreshments after services. Additionally, thank you to everyone who helped to organise and run the various services, especially the retired clergy and our Readers.
3. The PCC had pledged £28,000 to the Diocese of Chichester, a carefully considered and budgeted amount based on expected income and available reserves. Follow receipt of two unrestricted legacies during 2022, the PCC opted to pay 10%, (£1050) as an additional payment. A further restricted legacy was received in the care of the Dean and Churchwardens, of which 5% (£2900) was also made as an additional payment, making a final total of £31,950 for 2022.
4. The PCC received the first part of a large legacy from the estate of Tom Long This is restricted legacy in the care of the Dean and Churchwardens. 5% was made as an additional payment towards the 2022 Parish Contribution in recognition of the regular donations Tom Long used to make towards the Parish Contribution during his later years.
5. The PCC received two further unrestricted legacies, £10,000 from Freda Pett and £500 from Patricia Grinstead, which were placed in the designated legacies fund to be used for church projects.
6. St Mary's Church was delighted to host concerts again following two years of Covid restrictions, and welcomed both Battle Choral and the Whatlington Singers for choral concerts, as well as hosting Battle Festival for a Charity Concert in aid of Ukraine funds.
7. St Mary's Church was also delighted to host a fundraising event for Ukraine, at which £5,384 was given in donations and purchases.
8. The PCC made a total of £10,141 of outward giving donations from income received. This included money from the Ukraine fundraising event, the Christmas Tree Festival, Remembrance Services and the Civic Service for Queen Elizabeth II among others.
9. St Marys Church held a very successful Celebration of Flowers weekend for the Queens Platinum Jubilee, which included a Civic Service, attended by many in the Parish along with the MP Huw Merriman and the Vice Lord Lieutenant Sara Stonor.

10. St Marys Church joined with the all of the country in mourning HM Queen Elizabeth II when she passed away in September 2022. The flag was lowered, the bells muffled and a Civic Service held with the attendance of the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex.
11. The mother and toddler group Busy Bees restarted under the new leadership of Mrs Sue Blackman and Miss Roseanne Blackman. Places were quickly booked up and remained full all year, with requests for more sessions.
12. The Battle branch of the Bexhill Foodbank continued to operate from the Church Hall and is increasingly busy. This is an ecumenical venture and is in line with the diocesan encouragement to 'serve the common good'. The PCC charges for this use of the premises, but gives a 99% rebate as part of its endeavours to 'serve the common good'.
13. The Christmas Tree Festival took place over the weekend of 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> November. The church was very busy and the weekend was a success. Three charities were sent £775 each from the funds raised.
14. During 2022 the Parish Safeguarding Officer role was handed over to Mrs Jan Collins in May, with Mrs Tracy Dixon stepping down. There were no safeguarding issues during the year and the PCC has complied with its duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.
15. Volunteers - The Church depends on the voluntary services of many helpers in order to offer such a wide range of activities.
16. In line with the Charity Commissions recommendation, it is PCC policy that the balance on any unrestricted funds (excluding property) should equate to at least nine months of unrestricted expenditure (considering also some reliable income) as a contingency against unforeseen situations. This was true at the closing balance 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. In particular, we try to enable local people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:
  - a) Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge of, and trust in Jesus; the occasional offices, and administering the sacraments.
  - b) Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
  - c) Missionary and outreach work.
 To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St Mary's in Battle, Church of The Ascension at Telham and the Deanery.

Signed on behalf of the PCC,

Chairman .....  .....

Date 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 .....

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2022
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
	2				
Voluntary Income		108130	61677	-	169807
Activities for generating funds		3486	-	-	3486
Income from investments		4820	30	-	4850
Income from Church Activities		29097	3485	-	32582
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>£ 145533</b>	<b>£ 65192</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 210725</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income				-	-
Fund Raising Costs		280		-	280
Church Activities		139241	5772	-	145013
Governance Costs		1914		-	1914
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>£ 141435</b>	<b>£ 5772</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 147207</b>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		<b>4098</b>	<b>59420</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>63518</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains/(Losses) on investment assets</i>				( 12682 )	( 12682 )
<i>Fund transfers</i>		3485	( 3485 )		
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>7583</b>	<b>55935</b>	<b>( 12682 )</b>	<b>50837</b>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2022		<u>683051</u>	<u>£ 105954</u>	<u>£ 107158</u>	<u>£ 896163</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2022		<u>£ 690634</u>	<u>£ 161889</u>	<u>£ 94476</u>	<u>£ 946999</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022


Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for 2021:

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2021
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		119480	1000	-	120480
Activities for generating funds		3039		-	3039
Income from investments		1572	1528	-	3100
Income from Church Activities		18664		-	18664
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 142755</u>	<u>£ 2528</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 145283</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		140	-	-	140
Church Activities		113614	1882	-	115496
Governance Costs		2040	-	-	2040
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 115794</u>	<u>£ 1882</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 117676</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		26961	646	-	27607
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains/(Losses) on investment assets</i>				12602	12602
<i>Fund transfers</i>					-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>26961</u>	<u>646</u>	<u>12602</u>	<u>40209</u>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2021		<u>£ 656090</u>	<u>£ 105308</u>	<u>£ 94556</u>	<u>£ 855954</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2021		<u>£ 683051</u>	<u>£ 105954</u>	<u>£ 107158</u>	<u>£ 896163</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
 BALANCE SHEET  
 AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022	2021
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	598242	598242
Investment Assets	6	<u>94476</u>	<u>107158</u>
		692718	705400
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock		-	-
Debtors	7	2291	2261
Deposits at Central Board of Finance		131449	129026
Cash at Bank, Building Society and in Hand		<u>122642</u>	<u>61761</u>
		256382	193049
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>2101</u>	<u>2286</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		254281	190763
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due after one year</b>			
		-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	9	<u>£ 946999</u>	<u>£ 896163</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Funds	10	690634	683051
Restricted Funds	10	161889	105954
Endowment Funds	10	<u>94476</u>	<u>107158</u>
		<u>£ 946999</u>	<u>£ 896163</u>

Approved by the the Parochial Church Council on 29-03-23 and signed on it's behalf by:

  
 LEE DUCKETT  
 Dean

  
 PAUL LEWIS  
 Churchwarden

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

**Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**Funds**

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - funds earmarked for a particular future purpose.

Restricted funds -

- i) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest.
- ii) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained: only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the 'purpose' set out in the terms of the original endowment.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Voluntary income**

Collections are recognised when received. Planned giving receivable recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

**Other income**

Rental income from the letting of church premises and all other income is recognised when it is receivable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**Income from investments**

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

**Gains and losses on investments**

Realised gains are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

**Resources used**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted gross.

**Grants**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

**Church Activities**

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

**Fixed Assets**

**Tangible Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Dean and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's Inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

The Church Hall is shown in the accounts at the 2007 insurance value, this is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees. No depreciation is provided on land and buildings as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material.

Church equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

**Investments**

Investments are as stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

**Current assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Chancel trust and income grant**

Following a review of the law the Chichester DBF decided in 2019 that the previous presentation of Chancel Funds had been misunderstood and that a revision was required.

Income received from Chancel trusts is not investment income, as the PCC does not own the trust fund nor its investments.

Income from Chichester DBF is a Restricted charitable grant to reimburse the cost of insuring the Chancel, which previously has been paid by the PCC from General Funds. In 2022 the grant amounted to £nil (2021 £nil).

The PCC decided to transfer the Restricted grant to General Fund to replenish that fund for the cost of Chancel insurance.

The previously disclosed asset value amounting to £9690.98 has been removed from the value of PCC investments to reflect that the PCC does not legally nor beneficially own the Chancel trust fund nor its investments.

Accumulated grant income not yet received from Chichester DBF and included in Debtors amounted to £2291.23 at 31st December 2022 (2021 £2261.56).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
<b>2 INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid Donations	39987	-	39987	36599
Tax recoverable	13959	-	13959	12591
Collections at services	15057	-	15057	10637
Donations	15622	3677	19299	8170
Grants - Other	6628		6628	16907
Legacies and Donations in Memory	10500	58000	68500	35475
Other Voluntary Income	6377		6377	101
	<u>£ 108130</u>	<u>£ 61677</u>	<u>£ 169807</u>	<u>£ 120480</u>
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>				
Christmas Tree Festival	2823	-	2823	2828
General fund raising	663	-	663	211
	<u>£ 3486</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 3486</u>	<u>£ 3039</u>
<b>c. Income from investments</b>				
Dividends and interest	<u>£ 4820</u>	<u>£ 30</u>	<u>£ 4850</u>	<u>£ 3100</u>
<b>d. Income from Church Activities</b>				
Church and Church Hall lettings	13815	-	13815	11133
Benedicta Whistler Centre	1125	-	1125	241
Fees from weddings etc	10586	-	10586	5514
Magazine	3571	-	3571	1776
Insurance claim	-	3485	3485	-
	<u>£ 29097</u>	<u>£ 3485</u>	<u>£ 32582</u>	<u>£ 18664</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME RESOURCES</b>	<u>£ 145533</u>	<u>£ 65192</u>	<u>£ 210725</u>	<u>£ 145283</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
<b>3 RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>a. Costs of generating voluntary income</b>				
Stewardship costs	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>b. Fundraising costs</b>	£ 280	£ -	£ 280	£ 140
<b>c. Church activities</b>				
Ministry costs:				
Parish contribution to Diocese	29050	2900	31950	37000
Other clergy costs	14283	-	14283	10430
Church running expenses	17706	729	18435	17383
Church maintenance	21627	-	21627	10518
Upkeep of services	15845	990	16835	12415
Stationery and telephone	2209	-	2209	2629
Expenditure on magazine	2228	-	2228	1086
Church Halls running costs	17454	-	17454	16603
Benedicta Whistler Centre	1136	-	1136	2016
Flowers	-	1153	1153	972
Mission, Outreach and Charitable Giving	10142	-	10142	2840
Staff wages	3507	-	3507	-
Bank charges	371	-	371	333
Sundry and subscriptions	2183	-	2183	270
Eco Church Garden	1500	-	1500	-
Summer Food Project	-	-	-	1000
	£ 139241	£ 5772	£ 145013	£ 115496
<b>d. Governance costs</b>				
Independent examination fee	1914	-	1914	2040
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	-
	£ 1914	£ -	£ 1914	£ 2040
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	£ 141435	£ 5772	£ 147207	£ 117676

**4 REGULAR CONTRACTORS' COSTS**

During the year payments were made to a church caretaker, parish clerk, parish administrator, and organists at St Mary's, an organist at Telham, and a church hall cleaner and caretaker. The total of these payments was £18,945 (2021: £18,486).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and Buildings	Church Equipment	Restricted Fund Equipment	Total
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>				
As at 1 January 2022	598242	20063	4285	622590
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2022	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 622590</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
As at 1 January 2022	-	20063	4285	24348
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2022	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 24348</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2022</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2021</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>

The land and buildings comprise the Church Hall which is shown at an insurance valuation, which is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees.

The equipment consists of a photocopier, the Lady Chapel chairs purchased in 2007, the piano purchased in 2009, projector and screen purchased in 2011 and kitchen equipment, safe and chairs purchased 2012.

6 INVESTMENT FIXED ASSETS

Investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC:

Permanent endowments:	Purpose:	Historical	Market Value	
		Cost	2022	2021
1,574 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Church Fabric	3567	32521	36860
1,822 shares in CBF Investment Fund	General Religious	1500	37645	42668
1,004 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Ecclesiastical	3359	20744	23512
2,601 shares in CBF Fixed Interest Securities	Ecclesiastical	3525	3566	4118
<b>Expendable endowment:</b>				
672 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel Fabric Repairs	Income only	-	-
<b>Total Investments</b>			<u>£ 94476</u>	<u>£ 107158</u>
			<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>

7 DEBTORS

Income tax recoverable	-	-
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	2291	2262
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
	<u>£ 2291</u>	<u>£ 2262</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	2022	2021
<b>8 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Accruals for utilities and other costs	£ 2101	£ 2286

**9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Fixed Assets	598242	-	94476	692718
Current Assets	91008	165374		256382
Less: Liabilities	( 2101 )	-	-	( 2101 )
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>£ 687149</b>	<b>£ 165374</b>	<b>£ 94476</b>	<b>£ 946999</b>

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

	Balance b/f 01.01.22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers/ other gains & losses	Balance c/f 31.12.22
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	640993	127080	129563	3125	641635
Designated fund					
Busy Bees	355	743	1008	500	590
Pastoral Care Team	258				258
Magazine	4355	3571	2227		5699
Legacies	35475	10000	3950	500	42025
Eco Church Project	-	1161	1500		( 339 )
Events Committee	1615	2979	3187	( 640 )	767
	<u>683051</u>	<u>145534</u>	<u>141435</u>	<u>3485</u>	<u>690634</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Fabric funds (incl. Dean and Church Warden's Fabric)	89322	3485		( 3485 )	89322
Flower fund	1713	1177	1153		1737
Dean and Churchwardens (general)	10000				10000
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	2261	30			2291
Tom Long Legacy		58000	2900		55100
Telham Organ fund	380				380
Telham Electricity	226	1500	729		997
Organ Scholar		1000	990		10
St Mary's Organ Fund	2053				2053
	<u>105954</u>	<u>65192</u>	<u>5772</u>	<u>( 3485 )</u>	<u>161889</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>	<u>107158</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>( 12682 )</u>	<u>94476</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>£ 896163</b>	<b>£ 210726</b>	<b>£ 147207</b>	<b>£ ( 12682 )</b>	<b>£ 946999</b>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (Continued)**

- a. The endowment funds comprise investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC as detailed in note 6 to these accounts.
- b. The Fabric Funds are restricted to expenditure on the fabric of the church.
- c. The Pastoral Care Fund is money raised or donated specifically to be used by the Pastoral Care Team for incidental expenses.
- d. The Flower Fund represents monies given and used specifically for the provision of flowers at St Mary's.
- e. The Telham Organ Fund represents surplus funds from an appeal made prior to 1 January 2008 for the major refurbishment of the organ at the Church of the Ascension. The monies shown were transferred to the Parish during 2008 and are held for future major refurbishment of the organ but not for routine tuning or minor maintenance.
- f. Telham Electricity Fund is donations and expenses for the cost of electricity of Telham Church.
- g. St Mary's Organ Fund is donations specifically for the repair and upgrade of the organ. Remaining money will be used for future repairs.
- h. Legacies is a separate fund to be used for projects that may include items for the church and church hall as agreed by the PCC.
- i. The Tom Long Legacy is a restricted fund under the care of the Dean and Churchwardens. Under the terms of the will it is to be used for 'primarily for the furtherance of worship at Telham; but is not exclusive to this.

**11 TRANSACTIONS WITH PCC MEMBERS**

No members of the PCC received expenses or payments for services apart from:

B Cox	£ 380	Parish Clerk
T Dixon	£ 6015	Parish Administrator

**12 TRADING SUBSIDIARY**

St Mary's (Battle) Nursery Ltd started trading as a private company limited by guarantee in September 2012. The Nursery ceased to trade on the 31st August 2021 and was dissolved on the 5th April 2022.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF  
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 7 to 16.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R T K WALSH, FCCA  
MANNINGTONS  
Chartered Accountants  
39 High Street  
Battle  
East Sussex  
TN33 0EE



Date: 31/03/23

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BATTLE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1141300

---

# Accounts

---

**ST MARY  
THE VIRGIN  
BATTLE**

***ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE***

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**AND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**OF THE**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**For the year ended 31 December 2021**



**St. Mary the Virgin, High Street, Battle**

***Dean:*** The Very Revd Lee Duckett, The Deanery, Caldbec Hill, Battle TN33 0JY

***Independent Examiner:*** Manningtons Chartered Accountants, 39 High Street, Battle, TN33 0EE

***Bankers:*** National Westminster Bank plc Hastings (A) Branch, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1GW

## **Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Battle**

### **Annual Report for 2021**

#### **Administrative Information**

St Mary the Virgin is situated adjacent to the High Street, Battle. It is part of the Chichester Diocese within the Church of England.

The PCC Secretary during 2021 was Mrs S Blackman.

The parish is a charity and is registered with the Charity Commission under the terms of the Charities Act 1993, as subsequently amended. The registration number is 1141300.

Following the 2021 Annual Parochial Church Meeting the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC):

<b>Dean</b>	The Very Revd Lee Duckett	Chair
<b>1. Churchwarden</b>	Mr Paul Lewis	
<b>2. Churchwarden</b>	Mr Phil Collins	
<b>Reader</b>	Mrs Alison Hassell	
<b>Ex-Officio</b>	Revd Jeff Tutton (until 30.05.2021) Revd David Hazell (until 07.11.2021)	
<b>Deanery Synod Representatives</b> (elected for 3 years )	Mrs A Hassell (until 2023) Mrs J Thorp (until 2023) Mrs B Cox (until 2024)	

#### **Elected Members:**

Until 2022	Mr Michael Richards (resigned 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2021) Mrs Elizabeth Hart Mrs Penelope Colquhoun Mrs Jane Cowan Mrs Tina Staton (elected 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2021)
Until 2023	Mrs Sue Blackman Mr David Parfitt Mrs Patricia Roberts (elected 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2021) Vacancy
Until 2024	Mrs Helen Ormrod Mr Richard Williams Mrs Elaine Murray Mr Kieran Hills

#### **Structure, governance and management**

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the Dean; Mrs Alison Hassell – Reader; the Churchwardens and members of the Deanery Synod) and twelve members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The latter twelve members are elected on a rotary basis, four being elected each year to serve for a three-year term. Individuals may serve for a total of six years and then must stand down for two years before being eligible for re-election.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The primary objective of St Mary's PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Dean in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is responsible for the worship and general life of the church throughout the parish and for the buildings at St Mary's site. The Church of the Ascension and Churchyard at Telham are owned by a separate charity, Dean Crake's Gift, which has its own managing Trustees.

Public benefit is achieved through the provision of public worship; education of adults and children in the Christian faith; availability as a venue for Christian marriage services and provision of funeral services and associated pastoral support. These are available to all parishioners within the legislative provision of the Church of England.

## **Achievements and performance**

As at 31st December 2021 there were 148 members of the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 38 were not resident in the parish. The numbers have remained fairly steady, despite the sad loss of several members of the congregations.

From January 4<sup>th</sup> 2021 the country was once again in lockdown due to Covid-19. Services stopped again and the churches were closed. Every Sunday, communion continued at St Mary's and was livestreamed via Facebook. Weekly pewsheets continued and were sent by email or hand delivered to those who did not have email access. Both churches finally reopened on 28<sup>th</sup> March (Palm Sunday). Telham recommenced its pattern of 10am Holy Communion (BCP) on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays with a 10am Matins service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday and joining St Mary's for a combined service on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.

St Mary's recommenced 9.30am Communion services on the 28<sup>th</sup> March, with the introduction of the 11am Service (with Children's Church) on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May and finally Choral Evensong twice a month from the 5<sup>th</sup> September.

There were no school year end services held, although Battle Abbey School did manage to hold its Annual Founders Day service with reduced numbers. Carol services were cancelled at the last moment due to the rising Covid-19 rates in December, with just one school coming in with a few children to record it for parents to watch.

Remembrance Sunday, Church Carol services (Advent Carols and Nine Lessons and Carols) and Christingle took place, but with lower attendance than usual as people were being cautious. Carols in the Churchyard was held again and well received.

There were no baptisms, but five weddings, a thanksgiving for marriage, seven funerals and a memorial service took place as well as an Archbishops Visitation service for the swearing in of Churchwardens.

## **Overview and financial review of the year**

1. The full PCC met in eight times in 2021, three of the meetings by Zoom. There were one meeting of the Standing and Finance Committee whereby the Dean emailed the members and asked for written responses regarding a bequest left to the Church. In addition, the PCC held an Away Day Mission Action Planning at Crowhurst Prayer Centre in November 2021.
2. The PCC would like to extend a special thank-you to the Pastoral Care team, who maintain a high level of contact and care for the elderly, the sick, and housebound. Many thanks also to the Sacristan and his assistant for their faithful services and to all who clean and decorate both churches on a regular basis. Additionally, thank you to everyone who helped to organise and run the various services, especially the retired clergy and our Readers.
3. The PCC had pledged £28,000 to the Diocese of Chichester, a reduced amount due to the expected continued shortfall in collections, hall hirings and the loss of the Nursery rent from August 2021. However, successful applications for government Covid-19 grants for the hall, resulted in a lower shortfall than expected. In November 2021 the PCC elected to send a further payment of £5000. Another £4000 was sent from a legacy received, making a total of £37,000 for 2021
4. The PCC received an unexpected legacy of £35,475 from the estate of John Lucas, which was originally paid out in 2007. This was unclaimed assets which had been found in the bank. The original bequest was unrestricted. The PCC elected to send £4000 towards the Parish Contribution for 2021 and place the rest in the designated legacies fund for Church Projects.
5. The church was unable to host any concerts or events during 2021, however filming for an online concert took place on March for Battle Festival and we look forward to resuming these activities during 2022.
6. St Mary's Nursery closed on August 2021 after 9 years of trading. £1800 of the architect's fees were paid off, the remaining £978 was written off.
7. The Battle branch of the Bexhill foodbank continued to operate from the BW centre and then relocated to the upper Church Hall after the Nursery closed. This is an ecumenical venture and is in line with the diocesan encouragement to 'serve the common good'. The PCC charges for this use of the premises, but gives a 99% rebate as part of its endeavours to 'serve the common good'. It continues to be increasing busy due to Covid-19.
8. The Christmas Tree Festival took place over the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> November. The church was busy and the weekend was a success.
9. During 2021 the Parish Safeguarding Officer was Mrs Tracy Dixon. There were no safeguarding issues during the year and the PCC has complied with its duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.
10. Volunteers - The Church depends on the voluntary services of many helpers in order to offer such a wide range of activities.
11. In line with the Charity Commissions recommendation, it is PCC policy that the balance on any unrestricted funds (excluding property) should equate to at least nine months of unrestricted expenditure (considering also some reliable income) as a contingency

against unforeseen situations. This was true at the closing balance 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. In particular we try to enable local people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- a) Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge of, and trust in Jesus; the occasional offices, and administering the sacraments.
- b) Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- c) Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St Mary's in Battle, Church of The Ascension at Telham and the Deanery.

Signed on behalf of the PCC,

Chairman ..... *[Signature]* .....

Date ..... *9th March 2022* .....

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2021
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		119480	1000	-	120480
Activities for generating funds		3039		-	3039
Income from investments		1572	1528	-	3100
Income from Church Activities		18664		-	18664
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 142755</u>	<u>£ 2528</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 145283</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		140	-	-	140
Church Activities		113614	1882	-	115496
Governance Costs		2040	-	-	2040
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 115794</u>	<u>£ 1882</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 117676</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		26961	646	-	27607
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains /(Losses) on investment assets</i>				12602	12602
<i>Fund transfers</i>					-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>26961</u>	<u>646</u>	<u>12602</u>	<u>40209</u>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2021		<u>£ 656090</u>	<u>£ 105308</u>	<u>£ 94556</u>	<u>£ 855954</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2021		<u>£ 683051</u>	<u>£ 105954</u>	<u>£ 107158</u>	<u>£ 896163</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for 2020:**

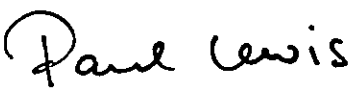
	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2020
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
	2				
Voluntary Income		75529	3495	-	79024
Activities for generating funds		385	-	-	385
Income from investments		1810	1418	-	3228
Income from Church Activities		11112	1308	-	12420
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>£ 88836</b>	<b>£ 6221</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 95057</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		28	-	-	28
Church Activities		91235	4816	-	96051
Governance Costs		2306	-	-	2306
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>£ 93569</b>	<b>£ 4816</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 98385</b>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		<b>( 4733 )</b>	<b>1405</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>( 3328 )</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains/(Losses) on investment assets</i>				( 3741 )	( 3741 )
<i>Fund transfers</i>		300	( 300 )		
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>( 4433 )</b>	<b>1105</b>	<b>( 3741 )</b>	<b>( 7068 )</b>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2020		<u>660523</u>	<u>£ 104203</u>	<u>£ 98297</u>	<u>£ 863023</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2020		<u>£ 656090</u>	<u>£ 105308</u>	<u>£ 94556</u>	<u>£ 855954</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	2021	2020
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	598242	598242
Investment Assets	6	<u>107158</u>	<u>94556</u>
		705400	692798
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock		-	-
Debtors	7	2261	5038
Deposits at Central Board of Finance		129026	128247
Cash at Bank, Building Society and in Hand		<u>61761</u>	<u>32157</u>
		193049	165442
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>2286</u>	<u>2286</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		190763	163156
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due after one year</b>		-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	9	£ <u>896163</u>	£ <u>855954</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Funds	10	683051	656090
Restricted Funds	10	105954	105308
Endowment Funds	10	<u>107158</u>	<u>94556</u>
		£ <u>896163</u>	£ <u>855954</u>

Approved by the the Parochial Church Council on 09-03-2022 and signed on it's behalf by:

  
LEE DUCKETT  
Dean

  
PAUL LEWIS  
Churchwarden

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

**Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**Funds**

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - funds earmarked for a particular future purpose.

Restricted funds -

- i) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest.
- ii) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained: only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the 'purpose' set out in the terms of the original endowment.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Voluntary income**

Collections are recognised when received. Planned giving receivable recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

**Other income**

Rental income from the letting of church premises and all other income is recognised when it is receivable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Income from investments**

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

**Gains and losses on investments**

Realised gains are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

**Resources used**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted gross.

**Grants**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

**Church Activities**

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

**Fixed Assets**

**Tangible Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Dean and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's Inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

The Church Hall is shown in the accounts at the 2007 insurance value, this is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees. No depreciation is provided on land and buildings as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material.

Church equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

**Investments**

Investments are as stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

**Current assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Chancel trust and income grant**

Following a review of the law the Chichester DBF decided in 2019 that the previous presentation of Chancel Funds had been misunderstood and that a revision was required.

Income received from Chancel trusts is not investment income, as the PCC does not own the trust fund nor its investments.

Income from Chichester DBF is a Restricted charitable grant to reimburse the cost of insuring the Chancel, which previously has been paid by the PCC from General Funds. In 2021 the grant amounted to £nil (2020 £299.64).

The PCC decided to transfer the Restricted grant to General Fund to replenish that fund for the cost of Chancel insurance.

The previously disclosed asset value amounting to £9690.98 has been removed from the value of PCC investments to reflect that the PCC does not legally nor beneficially own the Chancel trust fund nor its investments.

Accumulated grant income not yet received from Chichester DBF and included in Debtors amounted to £2261.56 at 31st December 2021 (2020 £2260.38).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
<b>2 INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid Donations	36599	-	36599	29426
Tax recoverable	12591	-	12591	13657
Collections at services	10637	-	10637	11765
Donations	7170	1000	8170	6738
Grants - Other	16907	-	16907	12134
Legacies and Donations in Memory	35475	-	35475	5000
Other Voluntary Income	101	-	101	305
	<u>£ 119480</u>	<u>£ 1000</u>	<u>£ 120480</u>	<u>£ 79024</u>
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>				
Christmas Tree Festival	2828	-	2828	-
General fund raising	211	-	211	385
	<u>£ 3039</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 3039</u>	<u>£ 385</u>
<b>c. Income from investments</b>				
Dividends and interest	<u>£ 1572</u>	<u>£ 1528</u>	<u>£ 3100</u>	<u>£ 3227</u>
<b>d. Income from Church Activities</b>				
Church and Church Hall lettings	11133	-	11133	7801
Benedicta Whistler Centre	241	-	241	744
Fees from weddings etc	5514	-	5514	2202
Magazine	1776	-	1776	366
VAT Reclaim	-	-	-	1308
	<u>£ 18664</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 18664</u>	<u>£ 12421</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME RESOURCES</b>	<u>£ 142755</u>	<u>£ 2528</u>	<u>£ 145283</u>	<u>£ 95057</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
<b>3 RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>a. Costs of generating voluntary income</b>				
Stewardship costs	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>b. Fundraising costs</b>	£ 140	£ -	£ 140	£ 28
<b>c. Church activities</b>				
Ministry costs:				
Parish contribution to Diocese	37000		37000	34100
Other clergy costs	13270	-	13270	11087
Church running expenses	16473	910	17383	13741
Church maintenance	10518		10518	6507
Upkeep of services	12415		12415	12827
Stationery and telephone	2629	-	2629	1626
Expenditure on magazine	1086		1086	725
Church Halls running costs	16603	-	16603	9713
Benedicta Whistler Centre	2016	-	2016	1524
Flowers	-	972	972	210
Mission, Outreach and Charitable Giving	-	-	-	726
Bank charges	333	-	333	324
Sundry and subscriptions	270	-	270	433
Summer Food Project	1000			2510
	<u>£ 113614</u>	<u>£ 1882</u>	<u>£ 115496</u>	<u>£ 96051</u>
<b>d. Governance costs</b>				
Independent examination fee	2040	-	2040	2306
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	-
	<u>£ 2040</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 2040</u>	<u>£ 2306</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<u>£ 115794</u>	<u>£ 1882</u>	<u>£ 117676</u>	<u>£ 98385</u>

**4 REGULAR CONTRACTORS' COSTS**

During the year payments were made to a church caretaker, parish clerk, parish administrator, and organists at St Mary's, an organist at Telham, and a church hall cleaner and caretaker. The total of these payments was £18,485.85 (2020: £16,163).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Land and Buildings	Church Equipment	Restricted Fund Equipment	Total
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>				
As at 1 January 2021	598242	20063	4285	622590
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2021	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 622590</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
As at 1 January 2021	-	20063	4285	24348
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2021	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 24348</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2021</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2020</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>

The land and buildings comprise the Church Hall which is shown at an insurance valuation, which is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees.

The equipment consists of a photocopier, the Lady Chapel chairs purchased in 2007, the piano purchased in 2009, projector and screen purchased in 2011 and kitchen equipment, safe and chairs purchased 2012.

**6 INVESTMENT FIXED ASSETS**

Investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC:

	Purpose:	Historical	Market Value	
		Cost	2021	2020
<b>Permanent endowments:</b>				
1,574 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Church Fabric	3567	36860	32247
1,822 shares in CBF Investment Fund	General Religious	1500	42668	37328
1,004 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Ecclesiastical	3359	23512	20569
2,601 shares in CBF Fixed Interest Securities	Ecclesiastical	3525	4118	4412
<b>Expendable endowment:</b>				
672 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel Fabric Repairs	Income only	-	-
<b>Total Investments</b>			<u>£ 107158</u>	<u>£ 94556</u>
			<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>

**7 DEBTORS**

Income tax recoverable	-	-
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	2262	2260
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	2778
	<u>£ 2262</u>	<u>£ 5038</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>8 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Accruals for utilities and other costs	£ <u>2286</u>	£ <u>2286</u>

**9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Endowment Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
Fixed Assets	598242	-	107158	705400
Current Assets	87095	105954		193049
Less: Liabilities	(2286)	-	-	(2286)
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>£ <u>683051</u></b>	<b>£ <u>105954</u></b>	<b>£ <u>107158</u></b>	<b>£ <u>896163</u></b>

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

	<b>Balance b/f 01.01.21</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Transfers/ other gains &amp; losses</b>	<b>Balance c/f 31.12.21</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	644350	103745	107102		640993
Designated fund					
Busy Bees including Buggy Stand	402	90	137		355
Pastoral Care Team	190	110	42		258
Magazine	3665	1776	1086		4355
Legacies	5000	34475	4000		35475
Summer Food Project	1000		1000		-
Events Committee	1483	3293	3161		1615
	<u>656090</u>	<u>143489</u>	<u>116528</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>683051</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Fabric funds (incl. Dean and Church Warden's Fabric)	88561	761			89322
Flower fund	1919	766	972		1713
Dean and Churchwardens (general)	10000				10000
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	2261				2261
Telham Organ fund	380				380
Telham Electricity	136	1000	910		226
St Mary's Organ Fund	2053				2053
	<u>105308</u>	<u>2528</u>	<u>1882</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105954</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>	<u>94556</u>	<u>12602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>107158</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>£ <u>855954</u></b>	<b>£ <u>158619</u></b>	<b>£ <u>118410</u></b>	<b>£ <u>-</u></b>	<b>£ <u>896163</u></b>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (Continued)**

- a. The endowment funds comprise investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC as detailed in note 6 to these accounts.
- b. The Fabric Funds are restricted to expenditure on the fabric of the church.
- c. The Designated Busy Bees Buggy Stand Fund represents monies donated before 1 January 2011 towards the provision of a covered buggy stand for parents visiting the Busy Bees group. The stand as envisaged was not possible and permission has been given to use the monies to to refresh the Busy Bees room as needed. In 2021 the fund had been fully utilised and the fund has now been closed.
- d. The Pastoral Care Fund is money raised or donated specifically to be used by the Pastoral Care Team for incidental expenses.
- e. The Flower Fund represents monies given and used specifically for the provision of flowers at St Mary's.
- f. The Telham Organ Fund represents surplus funds from an appeal made prior to 1 January 2008 for the major refurbishment of the organ at the Church of the Ascension. The monies shown were transferred to the Parish during 2008 and are held for future major refurbishment of the organ but not for routine tuning or minor maintenance.
- g. Telham Electricity Fund is donations and expenses for the cost of electricity of Telham Church.
- h. St Mary's Organ Fund is donations specifically for the repair and upgrade of the organ. Remaining money will be used for future repairs.
- i. Legacies is a separate fund to be used for projects that may include items for the church and church hall as agreed by the PCC.

**11 TRANSACTIONS WITH PCC MEMBERS**

No members of the PCC received expenses or payments for services apart from:

B Cox	£ 395	Parish Clerk
T Dixon	£ 8134	Parish Administrator

**12 TRADING SUBSIDIARY**

St Mary's (Battle) Nursery Ltd started trading as a private company limited by guarantee in September 2012. The Nursery ceased to trade on the 31st August 2021 and is currently in the process of being dissolved.

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 7 to 16.

### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R T K WALSH, FCCA  
MANNINGTONS  
Chartered Accountants  
39 High Street  
Battle  
East Sussex  
TN33 0EE



Date: 28/03/22

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BATTLE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1141300

---

# Accounts

---

**ST MARY  
THE VIRGIN  
BATTLE**

***ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE***

**ANNUAL REPORT**

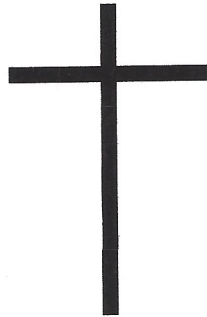
**AND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**OF THE**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**For the year ended 31 December 2020**



**St. Mary the Virgin, Lower Lake, Battle. TN33 0LA**

**Dean:** The Very Revd Lee Duckett, The Deanery, Caldbec Hill, Battle TN33 0JY

**Independent Examiner:** Manningtons Chartered Accountants, 39 High Street, Battle, TN33 0EE

**Bankers:** National Westminster Bank plc Hastings (A) Branch, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1GW

# Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Battle

## Annual Report for 2020

### Administrative Information

St Mary the Virgin is situated adjacent to the High Street, Battle. It is part of the Chichester Diocese within the Church of England.

The PCC Secretary during 2020 was Mrs J Collins until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020, then Mrs S Blackman.

The parish is a charity and is registered with the Charity Commission under the terms of the Charities Act 1993, as subsequently amended. The registration number is 1141300.

As the 2020 Annual Parochial Church Meeting was not able to take place until September 2020 (Covid-19 regulations) the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) during 2020:

<b>Dean</b>	Very Revd Lee Duckett	Chair
<b>1. Churchwarden</b>	Mrs Brenda Cox	Until 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
<b>2. Churchwarden</b>	Mrs Gaby Betts	Until 30 <sup>th</sup> July 2020
<b>3. Churchwarden</b>	Mr Paul Lewis	From 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
<b>4. Churchwarden</b>	Mr Phil Collins	From 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
<b>Reader</b>	Mrs Alison Hassell	
<b>Ex-Officio</b>	Revd Jeff Tutton Revd David Hazell (from 15.07.2020)	
<b>Deanery Synod Representatives</b> (elected for 3 years until 2023)	Mrs A Hassell Mrs J Thorp Vacant	
<b>Elected Members:</b>		
		Mrs Tracy Dixon (until 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mr Mark Blackman (until 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mr Kieran Hills (until 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mr Paul Middleton (until 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mrs Jan Collins (until 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mr Trevor Heron (resigned 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2020) Mrs Janet Heron (resigned 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2020)
	Until 2021	Mrs Helen Ormrod (elected 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mr Richard Williams (elected 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mrs Elaine Murray (elected 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mr Kieran Hills (co-opted 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct 2020) Mrs Patricia Roberts (co-opted October 2020)
	Until 2022	Mr Michael Richards Mrs Elizabeth Hart Mrs Penelope Colquhoun Mrs Jane Cowan (elected 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020)
	Until 2023	Mrs Sue Blackman (elected 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mrs Brenda Cox (elected 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020) Mr David Parfitt (elected 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020)

## **Structure, governance and management**

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the Dean; the Revd Jeff Tutton, the Revd David Hazell, Mrs Alison Hassell – Reader; the Churchwardens and members of the Deanery Synod) and twelve members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The latter twelve members are elected on a rotary basis, four being elected each year to serve for a three year term. Individuals may serve for a total of six years and then must stand down for two years before being eligible for re-election.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The primary objective of St Mary's PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Dean in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is responsible for the worship and general life of the church throughout the parish and for the buildings at St Mary's site. The Church of the Ascension and Churchyard at Telham are owned by a separate charity, Dean Crake's Gift, which has its own managing Trustees.

Public benefit is achieved through the provision of public worship; education of adults and children in the Christian faith; availability as a venue for Christian marriage services and provision of funeral services and associated pastoral support. These are available to all parishioners within the legislative provision of the Church of England.

## **Achievements and performance**

As at 31st December 2020 there were 149 members of the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 37 were not resident in the parish. The numbers have remained fairly steady, despite the sad loss of several members of the congregations.

Prior to the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2020, the church was achieving similar attendances to 2019. On 22<sup>nd</sup> March the whole country went into lockdown due to the Covid-19 outbreak and the churches closed their doors. However, every Sunday, the Dean and Revd Jeff Tutton celebrated communion alone at St Mary's and Telham respectively. An online Sunday reflection was pre-recorded and made available via Facebook, and weekly pewsheets were continued and emailed to all, with paper copies being hand delivered to all those locally who did not have email addresses. Both churches opened under strict Covid-19 health and safety restrictions on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June with a 9.30am service at St Marys and a 10am service at Telham. Thursday services were restarted at St Mary's again on 18<sup>th</sup> October and a 6pm Sunday service of Evening Prayer or Compline on the 18<sup>th</sup> October. Sadly, rising infection rates forced the closure of the churches again on the 7<sup>th</sup> November for four weeks. This time, services were live streamed from St Mary's. Both churches were open again from the 6<sup>th</sup> December, but once again only for one Sunday service, which also continued to be live streamed from St Mary's for those who were still shielding or unable to attend.

There were no school services all year. Due to the November Covid Tier 4 restrictions Remembrance was celebrated midweek by invitation only, outside for wreath laying and a short service. A successful outdoor 'Carols in the Churchyard' replaced the Advent and Christmas Carol Services. Christingle was pre-recorded and released on Facebook on Christmas Eve, and 250 Christingle bags, with the materials to make a Christingle at home, had been prepared and delivered to Battle & Langton School.

There were no weddings or baptisms, but five funerals, two burials of ashes and one thanksgiving for marriage service took place at St Mary's along with the licensing of the Revd David Hazell. Telham had one special service of thanksgiving for a parishioner. The Dean, Revd David Hazell and Alison Hassell (Reader) also performed a further 14 funerals at the crematorium or Cemetery.

### **Overview and financial review of the year**

1. The full PCC met seven times in 2020, some of the meetings by ZOOM. There were two special meetings with restricted agendas. The APCM was delayed to September, due to Covid-19 restrictions. There were no meetings of the Standing Committee.
2. The Dean and PCC would like to extend a special thank-you to the Pastoral Care team, who maintain a high level of contact and care for the elderly, the sick, and housebound during the Covid-19 Lockdown. Many thanks also to the Sacristan and his assistant for their faithful services and to all who clean and decorate both churches on a regular basis. Additionally, thank you to everyone who helped to organise and run the various services, especially the retired clergy and our Readers. Grateful thanks goes to the church Administrator who has tirelessly worked to keep things running smoothly through this challenging time.
3. The PCC managed to maintain its pledge to the Diocese of Chichester of £31,100 despite significant losses to its collections with the restrictions imposed by Covid-19. A further payment of £3000 from gift aid received on the 2019 anonymous donation was also made. Sadly, we learned of the passing of our regular anonymous donor in 2020. The pledge for 2021 reflected the loss of income from 2020 and the expected continued decreased income for 2021 while Covid-19 restrictions are still in place.
4. The PC received a bequest of £5000 from the estate of Marjorie Lovelock. While there were no restrictions on the bequest, the Dean and PCC resolved to keep it as designated funds for small projects within the church rather than as general funds.
5. The church was unable to host any concerts or events during 2020. We hope to resume these activities once restrictions over Covid-19 are lifted and it is once again safe to do so.
6. St Mary's Nursery completed its eighth year of operation at the beginning of September. Following a special meeting of the PCC the Nursery was granted one final licence to occupy the Hall until August 31<sup>st</sup> 2021, on an increased rent.
7. The Battle branch of the Bexhill foodbank continued to operate from the BW centre. This is an ecumenical venture and is in line with the diocesan encouragement to 'serve the common good'. The PCC charges for this use of the premises, but gives a 98% rebate as part of its endeavours to 'serve the common good'. It was increasingly busy throughout the year as the full effects of Covid-19 became apparent.
8. A summer food project was launched to help feed the children of struggling families during the summer holidays. This was funded by generous donations from parishioners and also donations from the Muffins and Hastings Direct. Money not used and further donations made a Christmas Hamper project also viable. Further money is now reserved for an Easter holidays project in 2021.

9. The Christmas Tree Festival was sadly cancelled, but the church was decorated with greenery, candles and a few trees. Battle Abbey School came in to record Carols for their school and for the church to release on Facebook over the festive season. A Christmas Carol Service was also recorded by the Dean with carols and readings and published on Facebook and YouTube.
  
10. During 2020 the Parish Safeguarding Officer was Mrs Tracy Dixon. There were no safeguarding issues during the year and the PCC has complied with its duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. The Dean and Mrs Tracy Dixon renewed all three levels of safeguarding training. Level 1 of Simple Quality Protects was assessed and approved and once the new churchwardens complete their safeguarding training a certificate of completion will be issued.
  
11. Volunteers - The Church depends on the voluntary services of many helpers in order to offer such a wide range of activities.
  
12. In line with the Charity Commissions recommendation, it is PCC policy that the balance on any unrestricted funds (excluding property) should equate to at least nine months of unrestricted expenditure (considering also some reliable income) as a contingency against unforeseen situations. This was true at the closing balance 31 December 2020. When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. In particular we try to enable local people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:
  - a) Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus;
  - b) Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
  - c) Missionary and outreach work.
 To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St Mary's in Battle, Church of The Ascension at Telham and the Deanery.

Signed on behalf of the PCC,

Chairman .....  .....

Date ..... 22-03-21 .....

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2020
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
	2				
Voluntary Income		75529	3495	-	79024
Activities for generating funds		385	-	-	385
Income from investments		1810	1418	-	3228
Income from Church Activities		11112	1308	-	12420
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 88836</u>	<u>£ 6221</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 95057</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		28	-	-	28
Church Activities		91235	4816	-	96051
Governance Costs		2306	-	-	2306
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 93569</u>	<u>£ 4816</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 98385</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		( 4733 )	1405	-	( 3328 )
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains /(Losses) on investment assets</i>				( 3741 )	( 3741 )
<i>Fund transfers</i>		300	( 300 )		0
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>( 4433 )</u>	<u>1105</u>	<u>( 3741 )</u>	<u>( 7068 )</u>
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2020		<u>£ 660523</u>	<u>£ 104203</u>	<u>£ 98297</u>	<u>£ 863023</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2020		<u>£ 656090</u>	<u>£ 105308</u>	<u>£ 94556</u>	<u>£ 855954</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**


**Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for 2019:**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2019
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
	2				
Voluntary Income		69163	19574	-	88737
Activities for generating funds		3667	227	-	3894
Income from investments		2224	1740	-	3963
Income from Church Activities		27701	6317	-	34018
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>£ 102755</u>	<u>£ 27858</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 130612</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
	3				
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Costs		383	-	-	383
Church Activities		97530	47590	-	145120
Governance Costs		2220	-	-	2220
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>£ 100133</u>	<u>£ 47590</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 147723</u>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		2622	( 19732 )	-	( 17111 )
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
<i>Gains /(Losses) on investment assets</i>				15162	15162
<i>Fund transfers</i>		( 11485 )	17085	( 5600 )	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		( 8863 )	( 2647 )	9562	( 1949 )
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2019		<u>669386</u>	<u>106850</u>	<u>88735</u>	<u>864971</u>
Total funds carried forward 31 December 2019		<u>£ 660523</u>	<u>£ 104203</u>	<u>£ 98297</u>	<u>£ 863023</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	2020	2019
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	598242	598242
Investment Assets	6	<u>94556</u>	<u>98297</u>
		692798	696539
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock		-	-
Debtors	7	5038	6504
Deposits at Central Board of Finance		128247	136969
Cash at Bank, Building Society and in Hand		<u>32157</u>	<u>25232</u>
		165442	168704
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>2286</u>	<u>2220</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		163156	166484
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due after one year		-	-
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	9	<u>£ 855954</u>	<u>£ 863023</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Funds	10	656090	660523
Restricted Funds	10	105308	104203
Endowment Funds	10	<u>94556</u>	<u>98297</u>
		<u>£ 855954</u>	<u>£ 863023</u>

Approved by the the Parochial Church Council on 17-03-21 and signed on it's behalf by:

  
**LEE DUCKETT**  
 Dean

  
**BRENDA COX**  
 Churchwarden

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

**Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**Funds**

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - funds earmarked for a particular future purpose.

Restricted funds -

- i) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest.
- ii) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained: only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the 'purpose' set out in the terms of the original endowment.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Voluntary income**

Collections are recognised when received. Planned giving receivable recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

**Other income**

Rental income from the letting of church premises and all other income is recognised when it is receivable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Income from investments**

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

**Gains and losses on investments**

Realised gains are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

**Resources used**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted gross.

**Grants**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

**Church Activities**

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

**Fixed Assets**

**Tangible Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Dean and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's Inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

The Church Hall is shown in the accounts at the 2007 insurance value, this is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees. No depreciation is provided on land and buildings as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material.

Church equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

**Investments**

Investments are as stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

**Current assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Chancel trust and income grant**

Following a review of the law the Chichester DBF decided in 2019 that the previous presentation of Chancel Funds had been misunderstood and that a revision was required.

Income received from Chancel trusts is not investment income, as the PCC does not own the trust fund nor its investments.

Income from Chichester DBF is a Restricted charitable grant to reimburse the cost of insuring the Chancel, which previously has been paid by the PCC from General Funds. In 2020 the grant amounted to £299.64 (2019 £320.59)

The PCC decided to transfer the Restricted grant to General Fund to replenish that fund for the cost of Chancel insurance.

The previously disclosed asset value amounting to £9690.98 has been removed from the value of PCC investments to reflect that the PCC does not legally nor beneficially own the Chancel trust fund nor its investments.

Accumulated grant income not yet received from Chichester DBF and included in Debtors amounted to £2260.38 at 31st December 2020 (2019 £1960.74).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
<b>2 INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid Donations	29426	-	29426	37783
Tax recoverable	13657	-	13657	16608
Other	-	-	-	-
Collections at services	11765	-	11765	24157
Donations	3542	3195	6738	6036
Grants - Other	11834	300	12134	-
Legacies and Donations in Memory	5000	-	5000	2000
Other Voluntary Income	305	-	305	2154
	<u>£ 75529</u>	<u>£ 3495</u>	<u>£ 79024</u>	<u>£ 88737</u>
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>				
Christmas Tree Festival	-	-	-	2706
General fund raising	385	-	385	1188
	<u>£ 385</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 385</u>	<u>£ 3894</u>
<b>c. Income from investments</b>				
Dividends and interest	<u>£ 1810</u>	<u>£ 1418</u>	<u>£ 3227</u>	<u>£ 3964</u>
<b>d. Income from Church Activities</b>				
Church and Church Hall lettings	7801	-	7801	13725
St Mary's (Battle) Nursery Ltd rent (hall)	-	-	-	( 1193 )
Benedicta Whistler Centre	744	-	744	2836
Fees from weddings etc	2202	-	2202	9074
Magazine	366	-	366	3261
VAT Reclaim	-	1308	1308	-
Insurance claim	-	-	-	6317
	<u>£ 11112</u>	<u>£ 1308</u>	<u>£ 12420</u>	<u>£ 34018</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME RESOURCES</b>	<u>£ 888336</u>	<u>£ 6221</u>	<u>£ 95057</u>	<u>£ 130612</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2020	2019
<b>3 RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>a. Costs of generating voluntary income</b>				
Stewardship costs	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>b. Fundraising costs</b>	£ 28	£ -	£ 28	£ 383
<b>c. Church activities</b>				
Ministry costs:				
Parish contribution to Diocese	31150	2950	34100	52560
Other clergy costs	11087	-	11087	10251
Church running expenses	13194	546	13741	11570
Church maintenance	5397	1110	6507	16280
Church fabric repairs	-	-	-	-
Upkeep of services	12827	-	12827	32453
Stationery and telephone	1626	-	1626	1447
Expenditure on magazine	725	-	725	2617
Church Halls running costs	9713	-	9713	9733
Benedicta Whistler Centre	1524	-	1524	1345
Flowers	-	210	210	1020
Depreciation	-	-	-	-
Mission, Outreach and Charitable Giving	726	-	726	4352
Bank charges	324	-	324	336
Sundry and subscriptions	433	-	433	1156
Summer Food Project	2510	-	-	-
Nursery rent write off	-	-	-	-
	<u>£ 91235</u>	<u>£ 4816</u>	<u>£ 96051</u>	<u>£ 145120</u>
<b>d. Governance costs</b>				
Independent examination fee	2306	-	2306	2220
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	-
	<u>£ 2306</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 2306</u>	<u>£ 2220</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<u>£ 93569</u>	<u>£ 4816</u>	<u>£ 98385</u>	<u>£ 147723</u>

**4 REGULAR CONTRACTORS' COSTS**

During the year payments were made to a church caretaker, parish clerk, parish administrator, and organists at St Mary's, an organist at Telham, and a church hall cleaner and caretaker. The total of these payments was £16,163 (2019: £13,480).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>Land and Buildings</b>	<b>Church Equipment</b>	<b>Restricted Fund Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>				
As at 1 January 2020	598242	20063	4285	622590
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2020	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 622590</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
As at 1 January 2020	-	20063	4285	24348
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2020	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 20063</u>	<u>£ 4285</u>	<u>£ 24348</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2020</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2019</b>	<u>£ 598242</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 598242</u>

The land and buildings comprise the Church Hall which is shown at an insurance valuation, which is the deemed valuation as per the Trustees.

The equipment consists of a photocopier, the Lady Chapel chairs purchased in 2007, the piano purchased in 2009, projector and screen purchased in 2011 and kitchen equipment, safe and chairs purchased 2012.

**6 INVESTMENT FIXED ASSETS**

Investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC:

	<b>Purpose:</b>	<b>Historical Cost</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	
			<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Permanent endowments:</b>				
1,574 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Church Fabric	3567	32247	30172
1,822 shares in CBF Investment Fund	General Religious	1500	37328	34926
1,004 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Ecclesiastical	3359	20569	19246
2,601 shares in CBF Fixed Interest Securities	Ecclesiastical	3525	4412	4262
<b>Expendable endowment:</b>				
672 shares in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel Fabric Repairs	Income only	-	9691
<b>Total Investments</b>			<u>£ 94556</u>	<u>£ 98297</u>

**2020**

**2019**

**7 DEBTORS**

Income tax recoverable	-	-
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	2260	1961
Prepayments and accrued income	-	1765
Other debtors	2778	2778
	<u>£ 5038</u>	<u>£ 6504</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	2020	2019
<b>8 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Accruals for utilities and other costs	£ 2286	£ 2220

**9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Fixed Assets	598242	-	94556	692798
Current Assets	60434	105008		165442
Less: Liabilities	( 2286 )	-	-	( 2286 )
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<u>£ 656389</u>	<u>£ 105008</u>	<u>£ 94556</u>	<u>£ 855954</u>

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

	Balance b/f 01.01.20	Income	Expenditure	Transfers/ other gains & losses	Balance c/f 31.12.20
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	653393	79902	88945	300	644650
Designated fund					
Busy Bees including Buggy Stand	330	331	258		402
Pastoral Care Team	295	28	133		190
Magazine	4024	366	725		3665
Marjorie Lovelock Legacy		5000	-		5000
Summer Food Project		3510	2510		1000
Events Committee	2483	-	1000		1483
	<u>660523</u>	<u>89135</u>	<u>93569</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>656389</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Fabric funds (incl. Dean and Church Warden's Fabric)	87247	2424	1110		88561
Flower fund	1881	248	210		1919
Dean and Churchwardens (general)	10000				10000
Chichester DBF Chancel insurance grant	1961	300	-	( 300 )	1961
Telham Organ fund	380	-	-		380
Telham Electricity	682	-	546		136
St Mary's Organ Fund	2053	-	-		2053
Donations for Parish Contribution	-	2950	2950		-
	<u>104204</u>	<u>5921</u>	<u>4816</u>	<u>( 300 )</u>	<u>105008</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>	<u>88606</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5950</u>	<u>94556</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>£ 853333</u>	<u>£ 95056</u>	<u>£ 98385</u>	<u>£ 5950</u>	<u>£ 855954</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**10 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (Continued)**

- a. The endowment funds comprise investments held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC as detailed in note 6 to these accounts.
- b. The Fabric Funds are restricted to expenditure on the fabric of the church.
- c. The Designated Busy Bees Buggy Stand Fund represents monies donated before 1 January 2011 towards the provision of a covered buggy stand for parents visiting the Busy Bees group. The stand as envisaged was not possible and permission has been given to use the monies to refresh the Busy Bees room as needed.
- d. The Pastoral Care Fund is money raised or donated specifically to be used by the Pastoral Care Team for incidental expenses.
- e. The Flower Fund represents monies given and used specifically for the provision of flowers at St Mary's.
- f. The Telham Organ Fund represents surplus funds from an appeal made prior to 1 January 2008 for the major refurbishment of the organ at the Church of the Ascension. The monies shown were transferred to the Parish during 2008 and are held for future major refurbishment of the organ but not for routine tuning or minor maintenance.
- g. Telham Electricity Fund is donations and expenses for the cost of electricity of Telham Church.
- h. Donations for the Parish Contribution were made during the year.
- i. St Mary's Organ Fund is donations specifically for the repair and upgrade of the organ, most the work was completed this year. Remaining money will be used for future repairs.
- j. A legacy of £5000 was received in the year from the estate of Marjorie Lovelock, this is allocated as a designated fund for small projects.
- k. The Summer Food Project is a designated fund specifically to help feed children of struggling families during the summer holidays, the residual funds are now reserved for an Easter holidays project in 2021.

**11 TRANSACTIONS WITH PCC MEMBERS**

No members of the PCC received expenses or payments for services apart from:

B Cox	£ 260	Parish Clerk
T Dixon	£ 8123	Parish Administrator
V Cook	£ 525	Sacristan

**12 TRADING SUBSIDIARY**

St Mary's (Battle) Nursery Ltd started trading as a private company limited by guarantee in September 2012. The Nursery pays rent as agreed by the PCC year on year and any profits of the Nursery will be a charitable donation to the PCC.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF  
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BATTLE, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 7 to 15.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*R. Walsh*

R T K WALSH, FCCA  
MANNINGTONS  
Chartered Accountants  
39 High Street  
Battle  
East Sussex  
TN33 0EE

Date: 25/03/21